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WINDHAM COUNTY CONNECTICUT

by

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CHAPTER XXVI.

THE TOWN OF STERLING.

Geographical Description.—The Volunteers' Land.—Settlement as Voluntown.—Division of the Land.—Town Privileges.—Presbyterian Church Organized.—Lands Laid Out.—Sterling Town Organized.—Meeting House Erected.—General Progress.—Public Highways.—School Matters.—The Voluntown and Sterling Church.—Line Meeting House.—Sterling Hill Baptist Church.—Other Churches.—Manufacturing.—Rocks and Quarries.—Oneco.—Decline of Manufactures.—The Grange.—Biographical Sketches.

THE township of Sterling occupies the southeast corner of the county, being bounded on the north by Killingly, east by Rhode Island, south by Voluntown (formerly a town of Windham county, but recently transferred to New London county), and west by Plainfield. The town is nine miles long from north to south, and has an average width of three miles. It is centrally distant from Hartford 49 miles and from New Haven 73 miles. It contains an area of twenty-seven square miles. Much of the land is hilly or swampy. The town is well drained by the Quanduck and Cedar Swamp branches of Moosup river. It contains valuable building stones, which are quarried to some extent. Sterling hill, in the western part, is the original settlement, and occupies an eminence, furnishing a delightful view of the surrounding country. The town is crossed near the center by the Providence Division of the N. Y. & N. E. railroad. Large quantities of railroad ties are cut from the woods of the town. Farming and manufacturing form the industrial interests of the town. Its population at different periods has been: In 1800, 908; in 1840, 1,099; 1870, 1,022; 1880, 957. The grand list of the town in 1800 was $20,873; in 1847, $11,791; in 1857, $13,447; and 1887, $259,263. The number of children between the ages of four and sixteen in 1858 was 280; in 1881, 227; and in 1887, 197. The post offices of Sterling, Oneco, Ekonk and North Sterling are in this town.

In October, 1696, Lieutenant Thomas Leffingwell, of Norwich, and Sergeant John Frink, of Stonington, moved the general

court, "that they, with the rest of the English volunteers in former wars, might have a plantation granted to them." A tract of land six miles square was granted in answer to this request, "to be taken up out of some of the conquered land," its bounds to be prescribed and settlement regulated by persons appointed by the court. The volunteers sent "out upon the discovery" of a suitable tract, found their choice very limited. Major Fitch, the Winthrops and others had already appropriated the greater part of the conquered lands, and the only available tract remaining within Connecticut limits was a strip bordering on Rhode Island, a few miles east of Norwich, and upon reporting this "discovery" to the general court, "Captain Samuel Mason, Mr. John Gallup, and Lieutenant James Avery were appointed a committee to view the said tract, and to consider whether it be suitable for entertainment of a body of people that may be able comfortably to carry on plantation work, or what addition of land may be necessary to accommodate a body of people for comfortable subsistence in a plantation way." After taking three years for viewing and considering, the committee reported favorably, and in October, 1700, Lieutenant Leffingwell, Richard Bushnell, Isaac Wheeler, Caleb Fobes, Samuel Bliss, Joseph Morgan and Manasseh Minor moved for its confirmation to the volunteers, which was granted, "so far as it concur with the former act of the General Assembly, provided it bring not the Colony into any inconvenience" or, as afterward expressed, "do not prejudice any former grant of the court." A large part of the tract thus granted is now comprised in the town of Voluntown. Its original bounds were nearly identical with those of the present township, save that eastward it extended to Pawcatuck river.

Little now can be learned of the primitive condition of this region. It was a waste, barren frontier, overrun by various tribes of Indians, and after the Narragansett war, claimed by the Mohegans. Massashowitt, sachem of Quinebaug, also claimed rights in it. No Indians are believed to have occupied it after the war, nor were any white inhabitants found on it when made over to the volunteers.

Some years passed before the division was completed. After the disputed Mohegan claim was settled a survey of the land was made in 1705. This land extended from the north bounds of Stonington northward to the Whetstone country, being a

tract some twenty miles long, and from three to six miles in width. Its original quantity was diminished somewhat by the encroachment of the Rhode Island line, but after that had been established the tract was substantially the same as that now occupied by the towns of Voluntown and Sterling. One hundred and sixty persons had enrolled themselves as desirous of sharing in the benefit of this grant, and the land was distributed among them by a drawing made April 6th, 1706. These drawers of lots were residents of New London, Norwich, Stonington, Windham, Plainfield and other neighboring towns. The list comprised not only officers and soldiers, but ministers, chaplains and many who had served the colony in civil capacity as well as military, during the war. Samuel Fish was probably the first settler on this tract, but at what point his settlement had been made (it being already there), we are not informed. Very few of the "volunteers" took personal possession of their allotments. Some of the proprietors sold out their rights at an early date, receiving five, six, eight, eleven and twelve pounds for an allotment. Others retained their shares and rented out farms on them whenever practicable. These first divisions were made in the southern part of the tract surveyed and most, if not all of the first land divisions and operations were probably within the limits of the present town of Voluntown. Northward lay the vacant land east of Plainfield. This land was petitioned for both by Plainfield and Voluntown. Some few had already obtained possession of lands here and had made improvements upon them. Reverend Mr. Coit, of Plainfield, had received a grant of three hundred acres north of Egunk hill, and he conveyed it to Francis Smith and Miles Jordan. Smith soon put up a mill and opened his house for the accommodation of travelers. Smith and Jordan, in 1714, erected a bridge over the river there, and received in payment 150 acres of land on the Providence road. This convenient road and pleasant locality soon attracted other settlers—John Smith, Ebenezer and Thomas Dow, Robert and John Parke, Robert Williams, Nathaniel French and others. In May, 1719, this vacant country was annexed to Voluntown, by act of the assembly, a strip one mile in width across the north end being reserved as public land. The settlers who were established in the vacant land had their purchases confirmed to them by the assembly, in October, 1719, on condition that each should "have a tenantable house and settle themselves within the space

of three years and continue to live there three years after such settlement, upon the forfeiture of said purchase."

In May, 1721, the people inhabiting this territory were invested with town privileges, in the exercise of which they proceeded to lay taxes for the support of a minister and building a meeting house. The town government of Voluntown was organized June 20th, 1721. Thirty-seven persons were then admitted inhabitants. The town was thus eighteen or twenty miles long and three or four miles wide. The question of location of a meeting house was a perplexing one, but it was finally decided by actual measurement, and placing it in the geographical center of the town, or about a quarter of a mile therefrom, the central point falling on an inconvenient spot. The first pastor settled by the town was Reverend Samuel Dorrance, a Scotch Presbyterian lately arrived from Ireland, who was installed December 12th, 1723. A church had been organized October 15th, 1723. This church adopted the Westminster Confession of Faith and was the first and for a long time the only Presbyterian church in Connecticut. The first members of the church were Samuel Dorrance, Robert Gordon, Thomas Cole, John Casson, John Campbell, Robert Campbell, Samuel Campbell, John Gordon, Alexander Gordon, Ebenezer Dow, John Keigwin, William Hamilton, Robert Hopkins, John Smith, Daniel Dill, Thomas Welch, Jacob Bacon, Daniel Cass, John Dorrance, George Dorrance, Samuel Church, Jr., John Dorrance, Jr., Nathaniel Deane, Vincent Patterson, Robert Miller, Patrick Parke, Samuel Church, Adam Kasson, William Kasson, David Hopkins, Charles Campbell, Nathaniel French, John Gibson, James Hopkins, John and Robert Parke, William Rogers and John Gallup.

In 1724 John Gallup had liberty to build a dam and saw mill "where he hath begun on ye stream that runs out of Monhungonnuck Pond," and Robert Parke was allowed a similar privilege on the Moosup. The landed interests of the town were still managed by the proprietors, and their meetings were held at New London, Norwich and Stonington. This subjected the resident proprietors to much inconvenience and was afterward corrected by allowing a part at least of the business concerning lands to be done in the town. In May, 1726, Voluntown organized its first military company, with John Gallup, for captain; Robert Parke, for lieutenant; and Francis Deane, for ensign. The progress of the town had been greatly retarded, and at that date it was much

behind its contemporaries, having no schools nor even a meeting house, and but few roads laid out. A long continued and obstinate contest over the site of the meeting house disturbed the town and prevented the erection of the building. Then again, boundary contests with the adjoining towns disturbed the peace of the town. Added to these disturbing forces from without and within was the fact that its population, though quite large, was motley and disorderly, made up of substantial settlers from adjacent townships, sturdy Scotch Presbyterians and lawless Rhode Island borderers. So great was the popular agitation and discontent that at one time the town voted "that it desired that the patent granted to Voluntown might be *un-acted* and made void, and that the town be divided by an east and west line into north and south ends, and each end to make and maintain their own bridges and highways." Attempts to go on with the building of the meeting house in this disturbed condition of affairs were quite suspended. A frame had been set up on Egunk, now Sterling hill, the site chosen and contended for by a large faction, and there it stood for years without covering. In 1729, however, the agitation was so far subsided that a meeting house was begun upon the site originally designated by the town, and this was completed in the course of two or three years.

In 1740 a committee was appointed to lay out the undivided lands belonging to the proprietors. In 1739 the strip of public land which had been reserved, a mile in width, at the north end of the town, was annexed to this town by an act of the assembly. Up to this time no freemen had yet been sworn, no "country taxes" paid, and no representatives sent to the general assembly. The town now settled down to a more complete fulfillment of the privileges and responsibilities of corporate existence. But the division of land ordered in 1740 was delayed till 1747, when all previous committees being dismissed, Humphrey Avery, Charles Campbell, Robert Dixon, Samuel Gordon and John Wylie, Jr., were appointed to divide the common lots to each proprietor or his heirs, remeasure and rebound old lots, and lay out cedar swamps, which were satisfactorily accomplished. The cedar and pine swamps, said to be the best in the county, were laid out and divided. The lot on which the meeting house stood, and the burial place adjoining, were sequestered for the use of the inhabitants of the town and their successors. Several of the

original lots had not been taken up by those to whom they had been granted.

In this condition Voluntown remained for many years, a greater part of the inhabitants averse to the established church and yet compelled to pay rates for the support of its ministry. Attempts were made by residents of each end of the town to procure distinct society privileges. A petition presented to the assembly in 1762 sets forth the situation in the following language:

"That there was but one society in Voluntown, twenty miles long and four or five wide; list in 1761, £10,786; inhabitants settled at each end and dispersed in almost every part, about one hundred and eighty families, some dwelling seven, some nine and ten miles from meeting house; trouble of transporting ourselves and families very great and heavy; town conveniently situated for division; such burden of travel hardly to be found in any other town—and prayed for division."

In 1772 fifty-four persons north of Moosup river, including John, James and George Dorrance, Robert, Thomas and James Dixon, Robert Montgomery, John Coles, John Gaston, Mark and David Eames, some of them six, seven, eight and nine miles from Voluntown meeting house, and greatly impeded by bad roads and traveling, received liberty from the assembly to organize as a distinct society or join in worship with Killingly. A number of these northern residents consequently united with the church in South Killingly, and after some years organized as a distinct society.

Sterling obtained town privileges without the customary struggle. The inconvenience arising from the peculiar elongation of ancient Voluntown was abundantly manifest, and a proposition, April 25th, 1793, to divide into two towns met immediate acceptance. The resolve incorporating the new town was passed May, 1794, as follows:

"*Resolved by this Assembly*, that all that part of the ancient town of Voluntown, within the following bounds, beginning at the northwest corner of said ancient town of Voluntown, at the south line of Killingly; thence running southerly on the east side of Plainfield until it comes to the southeast corner of Plainfield; thence east ten degrees south to the division line between this state and the state of Rhode Island; thence by said state line to the southeast corner of Killingly; thence westerly

on the line of Killingly to the first mentioned bounds, be, and the same is hereby, incorporated into a distinct town by the name of 'Sterling,' and shall be, and remain in, and of the County of Windham."

The first town meeting was held at the house of Robert Dixon, Esq., on Sterling hill, June 9th, 1794. Benjamin Dow was elected town clerk and treasurer; Captain John Wylie and Asa Montgomery, George Matteson, Anthony Brown and Lemuel Dorrance, selectmen; Captain Thomas Gordon, constable and collector; Noah Cole, James Dorrance, Jr., Nathaniel Gallup, Dixon Hall, fence viewers; Nathaniel Gallup, grand juryman; John Hill, Nathaniel Burlingame, Matthias Frink, tithingmen. Benjamin Dow, Lemuel Dorrance and John Wylie were appointed a committee to make division of all the corporate property that did belong to Voluntown; also, to settle the line with Voluntown gentlemen and make division of the poor. Sheep and swine were allowed liberty "to go on the common." The dwelling house of Robert Dixon was selected as the place for holding town meetings until the town saw cause to make other arrangements. Nearly a hundred inhabitants were soon admitted as freemen. The original Voluntown families—Dixon, Dorrance, Dow, Douglas, Cole, Smith, Gaston, Gordon, Gallup, French, Frink, Montgomery, Wylie—were still represented. Patten, Perkins, Vaughan, Young, Bailey, Burgess, Burlingame, Hall, Mason, and other later residents, appeared among the inhabitants. The name of the town was given by a temporary resident, Doctor John Sterling, who promised a public library in return for the honor.

Sterling entered upon its new duties with the usual spirit and energy. Its population was about nine hundred. Though much of its soil was poor, and its shape inconvenient, it had some peculiar advantages. It had fine water privileges, an excellent stone quarry, a great post road running through its center, and sterling men of good Scotch stock to administer public affairs.

The lack of a suitable place for holding town meetings was an annoyance and mortification to the leading men of the town, publishing to the world their lamentable destitution of that most essential accommodation—*a public meeting house.* Congregationalists in the south part of the town were included in the North society of Voluntown, and now engaged in building a new meeting house upon the boundary line between the town-

ships; those in the North or Bethesda society united with the South church of Killingly. The Baptists in the west part of the town were connected with the church in Plainfield; the east side Baptists joined in worship and church fellowship with their Rhode Island neighbors. As no religious society was ready to lead, its public-spirited citizens hastened to supply the deficiency by erecting a house of worship upon their own expense and responsibility. Sterling hill, as it is now called, was virtually the head and heart of the town, the center of business, the residence of the most influential citizens, and the members of the Sterling Hill Meeting House Association could not think of erecting the projected edifice in any other locality.

The subscribers to the building of the Sterling hill meeting house were as follows: Francis Smith, Levi Kinney, David Gallup, Joshua Frink, Isaac Gallup, William Gallup, George Madison, Charles Winsor, Nathan Burlingame, Philip Potter, Archibald, Lemuel, James and John Dorrance, Stephen Olney, Pierce Smith, Robert and Thomas Dixon, Joshua Webb, Benjamin Tuckerman, Reuben Thayer, David Field, Caleb Cushing, Andrew Knox, Titus Bailey, Joseph Wylie, Reuben Parke, Moses Gibson, Azael Montgomery, Dixon Hall, Archibald Gordon, Thomas Gordon, William Vaughan, Captain Gaston, Andrew and Samuel Douglas, Thomas and Samuel Cole, John Kenyon, Sr. and Jr., George Hopkins, Asa Whitford, Benjamin Bennet.

The subscribers, through a committee, obtained a deed from the heirs of Samuel Dorrance for a building lot on the east side of the Great Lane, now called the Green, "for the purpose of setting a meeting house and that only, and the convenience of a green." The meeting house was soon completed and in the autumn of 1797 the town meeting occupied it instead of the house of Robert Dixon, which had previously been used for that purpose. Other public meetings were held in it, and occasional religious services, but no regular worship was maintained for several years. In this way matters stood till about the year 1812, when the Baptists, having grown stronger, were able to maintain stated worship, and its occupancy was given up to them.

About 1818 a post office was established here, with Benjamin Tuckerman postmaster, which position he held for many years. The public library, which had been promised for the honor of naming the town but failed in its fulfilment, had been established years before, and was maintained at that time. Pierce

Smith succeeded Asa Montgomery as town clerk. John Wylie, Thomas Backus, Dyer Ames, Richard Burlingame, Dixon Hall, Jeremiah Young, John Gallup and Calvin Hibbard served as justices. Other town offices were filled by Lemuel Dorrance, Obadiah Brown, Asa Whitford, Jonah Young, Archibald Dorrance, John Hill, John and Azel Cole, Elias Frink, Amos Perkins, Joseph Gallup, John Keigwin and Artemas Baker. Half of the town meetings were held in the house of Azel Cole, and at a later date at the house of William Fairman, "on the new road near the American Cotton Factory."

From its location and surroundings the territory of Sterling is not subject to such violent disturbances by flood of swelling streams as some of its neighbor towns. Being smaller in territory, and its shape rather favorable thereto, it has been spared the burdens of road making and bridge building, which have been to some towns a serious drawback in their early experience.

After organization as a town, one of their first duties was to examine the circumstances of that stage road "that leads from Plainfield to Providence by Captain Robert Dixon's." The Turnpike Society, then recently constituted, was about to lay out a large sum of money in alterations and improvements, and the selectmen of Sterling were cited to do their part. "Taking into consideration the circumstances and liabilities of the town, and the consequences that might follow any failure or neglect," they proceeded to notify the inhabitants and make the proposed alterations, viz., from Archibald Dorrance's fence through Kenyon's field and so on to old post road; also, another piece near the burying-ground and Captain Colgrove's. A bridge was built over Moosup river near Smith's Mill—Lemuel Dorrance, John Gaston and John Douglas, committee. A turnpike gate was erected near the western line of the town. To facilitate its fishing interest, it was ordered that obstructions should be removed from the river.

School matters, like most all other public enterprises, suffered delay in the early years of this town, while it was part of Voluntown. In December, 1732, it was voted "That there shall be a surkelating school kep and a school-master hired at ye town's charge." In March, 1735, it was further ordered, "That the school be kept in four places, three months in a place, six months in ye north end and six months in ye south end, dividing ye town by a line from Alexander Gordon's to Ebenezer Dow's

house—and that the master, John Dunlap, should have thirty pounds money, and sufficient meat, drink, washing and lodging, for keeping school eleven months and eighteen days, and in ye night, when convenient." The first school house in the town was built in 1737, "four rods from ye northwest corner of ye meeting house," and a rate of twopence allowed for the same.

In 1762, John Gordon was chosen grand school committee, "to take into his hands the school bonds belonging to the town, and to collect the interest on bonds, and to receive the proportion of money granted by Government to the town out of the Colony's rate, and to dispose of the same, and all other money coming from Plainfield, &c., and town's proportion of the sale of Norfolk." In 1766, David Eames, John Cole, Joseph Parke, Thomas Douglas, John Gaston, John Gordon and John Wylie were appointed to set out school districts throughout the town. Thirteen districts were specified, each of which thenceforward managed its own school under the supervision of a "grand-school-committee-man," appointed by the town.

June 9th, 1794, John Douglas, Jr., was chosen grand school committee man, and a committee of one for each of the seven school districts, viz: 1. Jencks Mason; 2. Noah Cole; 3. Elisha Perkins; 4. Lemuel Dorrance; 5. Asa Whitford; 6. Nathan Dow; 7. Nathan Burlingame.

After the organization of the town of Sterling improvements in schools were gradually effected. Ten school districts, accommodated with good, convenient schools, were reported in a few years. Efforts were made to establish an academy, a company formed, and a suitable building erected, "standing near our new meeting-house, nearly in the centre of the town," where a "man-school was maintained throughout the year, teaching reading, writing, mathematics and grammar." With these public buildings, Robert Dixon's well-known tavern stand, and several large, substantial houses built by the Dorrances and other thrifty residents, Sterling hill presented a fine appearance, and received especial commendation from Doctor Dwight. After noting the lean soil and imperfect civilization of Western Rhode Island, he proceeds:

"At Sterling we were pleasantly advised that we had come to Connecticut by sight of a village with decent church and school-house and better houses. A beautiful prospect from Sterling Hill."

Reverend Mr. Dorrance remained pastor of the town ecclesiastic of Voluntown until March 5th, 1771, when, on account of his great age and infirmity, he was relieved. About 1772 an ecclesiastical society was chartered in the south part of Voluntown, and the same year, as we have already seen, a society was also chartered in the north part. The mother church, thus crippled, was unable to settle a pastor, and could with difficulty maintain regular worship. June 30th, 1779, the ancient First Church of Voluntown was reorganized as a Congregational church according to Cambridge Platform, its membership including ten males and sixteen females. The pastoral services of Reverend Mr. Gilmore were then secured, and religious worship was regularly maintained. Near the close of the century, and after the organization of Sterling, the remnant of this ancient church built a house of worship on the line between the towns, so that while the speaker stands upon the platform, one foot may be in Sterling and the other foot in Voluntown. In the last year of the century Reverend Micaiah Porter, who had been pastor of this church for nineteen years, removed and left the people without a shepherd. The weakened congregation now turned to the Baptists, who were strong in the neighborhood, and Elder Amos Crandall, an open communion Baptist, occupied the Line meeting house on alternate Sabbaths for several years, preaching to a small congregation. Still the church was not entirely disbanded. Reverend Elijah Welles, after his dismission from Scotland, labored with it for a year, but without marked success. Worship was kept up in an intermittent fashion for several years by a few brethren. In 1817 an appeal for aid was presented to the Domestic Missionary Society for Connecticut, and this was favorably answered for a time. After nearly thirty years of uncertain existence, this church secured the services of a stated pastor, and Reverend Otis Lane was installed over it October 29th, 1828. Infirm health compelled his removal after a few years, but he was quickly succeeded by Reverend Jacob Allen, installed in October, 1837, who with a brief intermission remained in charge for nearly twenty years. A new meeting house on this site was erected in 1858. At the dedication of this the new pastor, Reverend Charles L. Ayer, was ordained. This dedication of house and ordination of pastor took place January 6th, 1859. A new parsonage was obtained, largely through his efforts. He was dismissed October 27th, 1863. Reverend Wil-

liam M. Birchard was installed May 4th, 1864, and dismissed March 25th, 1868. Reverend Joseph Ayer, father of Charles L., came here in November, 1868, and after acting some time as stated supply, was installed May 11th, 1870. He was dismissed May 19th, 1875, on his 82d birthday. Reverend Stephen B. Carter served the church as pastor from January 1st, 1876, to December 31st, 1880. John Elderkin, the present pastor, began his labors here in April, 1881. The present house of worship on Ekonk hill was dedicated January 6th, 1859. The house before it occupied the same site, built in 1795 to 1800. A burying ground still marks the spot where the first house of worship stood, about two miles northeast from the present one, on the west side of the road leading from Voluntown to Sterling hill and Oneco. In January, 1889, the church had 33 members.

The meeting house on Sterling hill, which had been erected for general religious and town meetings, by the "Meeting House Association," was used by different societies until about the year 1812. At that time the Baptists were rising in importance and increasing in numbers, and the regular stated occupancy of this meeting house was accorded to them. This new religious interest had been developed under the preaching and labors of Elder Amos Welles, previously of Woodstock. Baptists in Coventry and Sterling united in a new church organization February 13th, 1813, and its pastoral charge was assumed by Elder Welles. Public worship was held alternately at Coventry and Sterling hill. Asa Montgomery was chosen deacon in 1816, and Philip Keigwin assistant. Nearly fifty were added to the church during the ministry of Elder Welles, which continued till his death in 1819. The Plainfield Baptist church and a neighboring church in Rhode Island united with this church in forming the Sterling Hill Association, which held a general meeting once a year, exciting a large attendance and much interest.

After this, the church enjoyed for five years the ministry of Reverend George Appleton. In April, 1829, Peleg Peckham became its pastor, continuing in charge for many years. Great revivals soon following brought in more than fifty to the membership of the church. The connection with Coventry was dissolved, and the church assumed the title of the First Baptist church of Sterling. John Gallup succeeded Thomas Douglas as clerk. Ira Crandall was chosen deacon upon the death of Deacon Asa Montgomery. Philip Keigwin was also a deacon. Dur-

ing the year 1829 a branch was established in Voluntown, which became independent of this church in about ten years. The meeting house was thoroughly reconstructed in 1860-61, the former proprietors relinquishing their claims to a new "Association" and the Baptist church which had so long occupied it.

Elder Peleg M. Peckham took charge, as we have said, in 1829, and continued until September, 1850. After that no stated preaching was had for some time. Services were conducted by temporary supplies. The old house stood where the present one does. Some of the timber of the old was worked over into the new. Elder Peckham died May 29th, 1872, at his home in Sterling hill, now occupied by his grandson, Samuel P. Green. While the old church was in a dilapidated condition, Elder Biddle preached to the congregation in the school house for a year, about 1857. After that, Elder Peckham, who had given up the ministry on account of throat troubles, resumed the work for another year—1858. Elder Terry came in 1861, and served the church till 1865. Elder Thomas Dowling came in January, 1866, remaining three years. Fenner B. Dickerson ministered to this people from 1870, about four years. Elder W. D. Phillips was ordained here June 24th, 1874, but only staid about three months. Temporary supplies followed. L. Smith Brown was ordained May 16th, 1877, and remained till 1881. C. W. Potter began pastoral labors June 1st, 1882, and continued till April 1st, 1885. Elder E. S. Hill began his work here August 1st, 1885, and still remains in charge. The church at present numbers 97 members.

At Oneco Methodist services have for some time been conducted, in connection with the Methodist Episcopal church of Moosup. At the present time (1889) a house of worship is being erected here by that denomination.

At North Sterling, in the northeast part of the town, a Union Free Will Baptist church has been started. This settlement is on the Rhode Island line, and the meeting house stands beyond the line in that state. A number of the inhabitants in this town are connected with it.

The uprising of the manufacturing interest gave Sterling a fresh impetus in growth and prosperity, Asa Ames, Isaac Pitman and Samuel Dorrance and Dixon Hall, of Sterling, in 1808, as the Sterling Manufacturing Company, buying land "at a ledge of rocks, called the 'Devil's Den Chimney;' thence west

by and down a small brook to Moosup River." The Sterling Manufactory was ready for work in 1809. Sterling's manufacturing facilities were well improved during the early part of the present century. Its first factory, built by Dorrance, Hall and others, was destroyed by fire soon after its completion, but its site was soon occupied by a larger building under the more exclusive management of Samuel Ames of Providence, which was described in 1818 as "one of the largest manufacturing establishments in the State, running sixteen hundred spindles." The buildings for the accommodation of the workmen were built of stone, taken from the ledge of rocks included in the company's purchase. This "Devil's Den Chimney," as it was previously called, possessed, according to *Niles' Gazetteer*, "very singular and curious features," viz:

"It is situated within a ledge of rocks, and has a circular area of about 100 feet in diameter. The rock is cleft in two places, forming at each a chasm or fissure of about 50 feet deep, through one of which there runs a small stream of water; the other communicates with a room of about twelve feet square, at the interior part of which there is a fireplace and a *chimney* extending through the rock above, forming an aperture of about three feet square. In another part of the rock there is a natural staircase winding around it from the bottom to the top. In the cold season of the year a large mass of ice is formed in the room above described by the dashing of water through the chimney, which continues there through nearly the whole of the warm months, the sun being almost excluded from this subterraneous recess."

The American Factory upon the Quanduck, and a small cotton factory upon the Moosup were also carried on. Three grain mills, one carding machine, one fulling mill and clothiery works, two tanneries, four mercantile stores and two taverns were reported in 1818.

For many years the cotton factories continued in operation, furnishing employment to male and female operatives, and a ready market for farmers. The Sterling Company manifested much enterprise, and was one of the first in the country to whiten their cloth by the use of chlorine instead of sun bath. Mr. William Pike effected this invention, and also experimented in wood distillation, extracting for the use of the dyer the first pyroligneous acid made in the country. His success encouraged

him to further enterprise. Brandy and gin distilleries had fallen into disrepute, but the transformation of wood into various chemical agencies met with nothing but favor. Three of these "sap works" were in time established—two in Sterling, one in Voluntown—requiring some five or six thousand cords of wood annually, and at least a score of men to prepare the wood and aid in the working. Pyroligneous and citric acids, sugar of lead, tincture of iron, naphtha and fine charcoal were among the products of distillation. Mr. Pike had his residence on Sterling hill, in one of the fine old Dorrance houses, and was much respected as one of the leading men of the town. He was the first to introduce one horse wagons into use, paying for them in cotton yarn. Charcoal making was carried on quite extensively in Sterling.

Jeremiah W. Boswell was born in Foster, R. I., and came to Sterling, Conn., in 1876. He learned the trade of stone cutter and commenced quarrying granite about one-fourth of a mile east of Sterling Dye Works in 1887. He employs about twenty-five men. The stone is of superior quality for building purposes, and finds a ready market in Providence, Norwich and other places.

The village of Oneco, in the central part of the town, was founded by Henry Sabin, of Plainfield, who built a small cotton factory here about the year 1830. Successive owners gave it their names till it was finally re-christened by the Norwich proprietors, who now utilize its granite, working its fine quarries to good advantage. Indications of yet more valuable ore have been found in the vicinity. Among these are specimens of plumbago and dendrite, and such large and glittering quartz crystals, that their chief depository is known as "the Diamond Ledge." The famous "Devil's Den Chimney" was blown up to make way for the railroad when that was building.

About 1860 Smith & Williams commenced quarrying granite at what is now known as Garvey Brothers' quarry. They were succeeded by A. & W. Sprague, and in 1884 by Garvey Brothers, of Providence, who employ at the quarry and in connection with it about 120 men. The granite quarried here is used for paving, building and monumental purposes in Providence, New York, Chicago and many other places, and is also sent to England. Their facilities for handling stone are not surpassed, a railroad running direct to the ledge. Mr. John Garvey, who, since the death

of his brother Michael, in 1887, has been sole manager, came to this country in 1869 with about five dollars in his pocket. He learned the trade of stone cutter, became a contractor and builder, and, by his industry, has built up a large and increasing business.

Oscar F. Gibson, son of Allen Gibson, was born in Sterling in 1835. In 1886 he commenced quarrying granite about one mile west of Oneco village. He employs about 20 men. The stone are chiefly used for building, and find a ready market. Mr. Gibson represented Sterling in the legislature of 1880. He married Ellen, daughter of Arnold Dixon, and has two sons, Allen M. and Merrill A.

The cotton manufacturing interests of the town have declined. Factories burned down have not been replaced. Its natural resources now furnish its chief reliance. The "sap works" of Mr. James Pike continue to resolve the forests into their component elements, consuming annually some two or three thousand cords of hard wood, employing a number of workmen, and extracting and combining a variety of useful products. A specialty of this unique establishment is the dissolution of refuse tin and iron, battered tin pans, rusty stove pipes and the like, by which these heretofore indestructible nuisances are made subservient to the will and use of man. Stimulated by the enterprises, Oneco bids fair to become a place of business importance, has a new public hall and public-spirited residents.

A Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry was recently organized here by Mr. Bowen, the state lecturer of that order. It had thirty-six charter members. The location of the Grange is at the "Line meeting house," where it was organized, and only a part of its membership belong to this county. Its first officers were as follows: John E. Tanner, M.; E. Byron Gallup, O.; A. A. Stanton, L.; G. A. Youngs, S.; Silas Barber, A. S.; Mrs. Nathaniel Gallup, L. A. S.; Reverend John Elderkin, C.; Benjamin G. Stanton, secretary; J. Cyrus Tanner, treasurer; Miss Minnie Elderkin, P.; Addie E. Gallup, F.; Mrs. J. E. Fenner, C.; Ezra A. Gallup, G. K.

Biographical Sketches.

Ambrose H. Bates.—William Bates, who resided in Coventry, Rhode Island, married Mary Hopkins. To this union were born twelve children, of whom Ambrose H. is the subject of this

S. W. Bates

ARLOTYPE, E. BIERSTADT, N. Y.

sketch. His birth occurred February 21st, 1832, in Coventry, where he resided until his eighteenth year. He enjoyed but limited opportunities for acquiring an education, but in later years by careful and intelligent reading of the best literature, in a measure made amends for the want of early advantages, and thus possessed a well-stored and disciplined mind.

At the age of eighteen he entered the whaling service and for twenty years followed a seafaring life, cruising in various parts of the world on extended voyages. On abandoning his vocation he settled in Oneco, in the town of Sterling, and began a mercantile career as the proprietor of a country store. Mr. Bates continued thus employed for five years, and after an interval of of leisure again engaged in business as an undertaker, establishing a large and increasing patronage, which was maintained until his death on the 21st of February, 1885, in his fifty-third year. He enjoyed an extended acquaintance among public men throughout the state, was a man of progressive ideas, and active in the promotion of various useful enterprises. A democrat in his political views, he filled a number of local offices and in 1877 represented his town in the Connecticut legislature. Mr. Bates was also identified with the Masonic fraternity, in which he occupied a leading position.

He was, August 12th, 1861, married to Diana E., daughter of Orren Kenyon, of Coventry, Rhode Island. He was a man of strong personality, an indomitable will and rare natural gifts, and had he been possessed of the advantages of early education would have risen to a high position in the state. Mr. Bates during his life traveled over the greater part of the world. He spent several seasons in the Arctic regions, many times "rounded Cape Horn," and at various times lived in the Hawaiian Islands. Entering the whaling service, as he did, in 1850, at the time when it was most lucrative, as well as the most dangerous, his life was an extended series of adventure and peril. From the very bottom of the ladder he rose in a few years to the highest position in the service, that of owner and master of a vessel—a thing which rarely occurred.

James Pike.—John Pike, the common ancestor of the branch of the Pike family residing in Connecticut, settled in Salem, Massachusetts, in 1664. He was the progenitor of Jonas Pike, of Sturbridge, Massachusetts, who married a descendant of Perigrine White, the first white child born in New England. Their

four sons were: David, Ephraim, Jonas and Jesse. There was also one daughter, Amy. David married Elizabeth Pitman, of Newport, Rhode Island. Their children were two sons, William and James Pitman; and two daughters, Lucy, wife of David Bayless, and Nancy, who married Abijah Prouty. William Pike left Sturbridge in 1810 and settled in Sterling. He learned from his father, who was by trade a hatter, the art of coloring. In the year 1811 he began the dyeing of cotton yarns and later assumed the charge of the dye house of the Sterling Manufacturing Company. Removing to Pawtucket he introduced the bleaching of cottons by chlorine, and thus superseded the primitive method of bleaching in the sun. In 1814 he was employed by the Sterling Manufacturing Company, and a year later started the manufacture of pyroligneous acid for the use of the dyers' art. About this date he established the firm of William Pike & Co., for the manufacture of the above acid, in Sterling. He married Lydia Campbell, to whom were born five children, the only survivors being James, the subject of this biography, and William.

James Pike was born December 31st, 1826, in Sterling, the scene of his lifetime business experiences. After a season at the public schools he became a pupil of the Plainfield Academy and the Scituate Seminary. Soon after he found employment in the mills of the Sterling Manufacturing Company, and subsequently aided his father in the manufacture of chemicals. Meanwhile, by a series of experiments, he discovered a process of coloring black, which for permanency and general excellence was superior to any dye in use. He at once organized the Sterling Dyeing and Finishing Company, in which he holds the controlling interest and for which he is the agent. So favorably received was this new process that the capacity of the works was soon inadequate to the demand, and extensive additions have since been made, most of the buildings being substantial stone structures. To this business his time and attention are exclusively given.

Mr. Pike was married on the 10th of May, 1853, to Mary E., daughter of Abram Shepard, of Brooklyn, Connecticut. Their children were: J. Edward, who is engaged with his father in business; Lydia Campbell, wife of Claramon Hunt; Mary E.; Harriet E., wife of George Call; and one who is deceased. Mr. Pike is a republican in politics. He served as

James Pike

Avery A. Stanton

ARTOTYPE, E. BIERSTADT, N. Y.

railroad commissioner from 1868 to 1871, has held various town offices and while a member of the state legislature served on the committee on banks. He is a member of Moriah Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Danielsonville, and a supporter of the Congregational church.

AVERY A. STANTON.—The subject of this sketch was born in Preston, Conn., in 1837, is a son of Lodowick Stanton, and the great-great-grandson of General Thomas Stanton, who came from England and settled in Stonington, Conn. His great-grandfather, John Stanton (known as Warrior Stanton), served in the French and Indian war and also fought in the revolutionary war, coming from battle with eighteen bullet holes shot through his coat. The mother of Avery A. Stanton was a daughter of Deacon John Stanton, who was a son of Joshua Stanton, whose father Washington also came from England. His brothers are Captain John L. (who fell at the siege of Port Hudson), Alburtus S. and Reverend William E.

In 1848, Mr. Stanton and his mother removed to Voluntown, Conn., his father having died one year previous. He received his education at the schools of Voluntown, East Greenwich, R. I., and at the Connecticut Literary Institution, of Suffield, Conn. He taught school about eight years in Eastern Connecticut and Rhode Island, and in 1862 settled in the town of Sterling, Conn., where he has since resided, engaged in farming and the lumber business. In 1864 he was elected one of the school visitors of Sterling, which position he held for twenty-four years. In 1873 he was elected first selectman, and has held other important town offices, being town agent and auditor for a number of years. In 1874 he represented the town of Sterling in the state legislature. In 1884 he was appointed by the governor of the state county commissioner to fill an unexpired term, and was chosen by the legislature of 1884 to the same office for a term of three years. He still holds this position, having been reappointed for a second term of four years.

Mr. Stanton is married to Laura, daughter of Benjamin Gallup, of Voluntown, and has five sons—Walter A., John B., Benjamin G., William E. and Albert H.—and three daughters—Nettie E., Ella C. and Lottie E. Mr. Stanton belongs to a family that is able to trace 6,000 relatives.

CHAPTER XXVII.

THE TOWN OF THOMPSON.

Location, Description, Geology.—Pre-historic Occupants.—The Indians of this Region.—Early White Settlers.—Quinnatisset Hill.—Increase of Population.—Land Controversies.—Pattaquatic.—Highways in the Wilderness.—Bridge Building.—Samuel Morris.—Early Attempt to secure Town Privileges.—Second or North Society of Killingly.—Thompson Parish.—Land west of the Quinebaug annexed.—Building the Meeting House.—Religious Worship Established.—Military Company.—Non-resident Land-owners.—Various Improvements.—Schools.—Town Affairs.—The French War.—The Old Red Tavern.—Business and Finance.—The Revolutionary Period.—Quadic Shipyard.—Petitions for Town Privileges.

THOMPSON occupies the northeast corner of the state of Connecticut, bordering north on Massachusetts and east on Rhode Island. Its territory is ample, about eight miles by six, comprising 48.49 square miles. The Quinebaug and French rivers, flowing through the west of the town, unite below Mechanicsville. The Five-mile or Assawaga river is near the eastern border. Capacious reservoirs greatly augment the volume of these streams and multiply the manufacturing facilities of the town. The surface of the soil is much broken and diversified, particularly between the rivers, and so encumbered by stones as to make its cultivation very laborious. Granite ledges underlie the hills, and myriads of detached stones overlie field and pasture. Sixty years ago Niles' "Connecticut Gazetteer" reported "more miles of wall fence in Thompson than in any town of the State," and it is doubtful if this record has been broken. Elaborate and unique stone walls in all parts of the town testify to the ingenuity and industry of the farmer. Many well-cultivated farms, neat and convenient farm houses, and a general aspect of thriftiness indicate a further triumph over natural disadvantages. In spite of hard and stony soil, farming in Thompson has not been unremunerative, and the majority of her farmers are well-to-do and comfortable. The eastern part of the town is less favored—a barren ridge of rocky woodland,

stretching into Rhode Island and southward to the Sound. With increasing emigration and modern methods of farming, less pains are taken to cultivate poor soil, and many fields and pastures are left to grow up into forest, and though much wood is cut off and sent to market, much more is growing than there was fifty years ago.

The territory now included in Thompson was, prior to white settlement, a part of the Nipmuck country, though also claimed by the Narragansetts. The Great Pond, Chaubunakongkomuk, just beyond its present northern boundary, was the "bound mark" between the Nipmucks and Narragansetts. An Indian captain named Allum or Hyems gave his name to the little Allum pond, near its northeast corner. In the days of John Eliot's missionary labors, 1670–1674, the Nipmucks were in ascendency, occupying a fort on the hill east of what is now Thompson hill. This latter hill and the surrounding country was known as Quinnatisset, and the little brook circuiting from "the meadow" into the French river was called Quinnatisset brook. Through the faithful labors of Eliot's Indian missionaries the Quinnatisset residents were persuaded to gather into a village on the hill, where a large wigwam was constructed, visible as late as 1730. Twenty families, containing about a hundred souls, were reported to Eliot, partly civilized and inclined to religious worship, to whom was sent in 1674 "a sober and pious young man of Natick, called Daniel, to be their minister, whom they accepted in the Lord." The breaking out of King Philip's war quickly obliterated the results of missionary labor. The Quinnatisset Nipmucks joined the Narragansetts and were mostly destroyed. The fort in Quinnatisset, known as "Fort No. 1 in the Nipmuck Country," was assaulted and demolished, but the aboriginal cellar on Fort hill, described by surveyors in 1684 as "the ruins of an old Indian fort," is visible until this day, one of the oldest and best authenticated Indian relics in Windham county. Many Indian utensils and arrows, found in this vicinity and the adjacent Pattaquatic (now Quadic), show that this Assawaga valley was once a favorite resort. The remains of corn rows were distinctly seen upon Fort hill within the memory of older inhabitants.

In connection with the general settlement of Indian affairs following King Philip's defeat, five thousand acres of land at Quinnatisset were included in the reservation allowed to the

Indians. This land was immediately made over to the Massachusetts agents, Messrs Stoughton and Dudley, and soon after sold to non-resident English gentlemen. June 18th, 1683, two thousand acres of "forest land in the Nipmuck Country," including the present Thompson hill and surrounding land, was conveyed to Thomas Freak, Hamington, Wells county, England, and a two thousand acre tract, east of the above, was soon after sold to Sir Robert Thompson, North Newington, Middlesex, England—the initial bound between the tracts running through the cellar of the old fort. Another large slice of the Indian reservation, east of the Quinebaug or Myanexet, now occupied by New Boston village, was secured by Joseph Dudley, and smaller farms by other non-residents. These farms were all laid out in 1684, the earliest of any in Windham county, but owing to the uncertain tenure of the land, they were not improved for many years. The survey under which Massachusetts claimed Quinnatisset and the adjacent Senexet (now Woodstock) was clearly erroneous. Woodward and Saffery's line, dividing Massachusetts and Connecticut colonies, deflected southward six or eight miles, striking the Connecticut river at Windsor. The protracted boundary quarrel greatly discouraged settlement, and it was not till after 1713, when Massachusetts consented to rectify the line provided she could keep all the towns she had settled, that much progress was made. The township of Killingly had meanwhile been settled and organized, and as it was certain that Connecticut's claim would ultimately prevail, a few settlers had straggled in north of that town.

The first known and datable settler within the limits of the present Thompson was Richard Dresser, of Rowley, Mass., who in 1707 purchased "the place called Nashaway," a beautiful farm west of the Quinebaug, at its junction with the French river, a little south of the present Mechanicsville. His son Jacob, born in 1710, was the first white boy born upon Thompson territory. Sampson Howe followed the next year, settling between the rivers. Farther north, between the rivers, land was taken up by Isaac Jewett and John Younglove, whose premises were so infested with bears, wolves and Indians, that a log fort or garrison was needed for protection. The first settler in the vicinity of Quinnatisset hill was Samuel Converse, of Woburn, who, with wife and four sons, in 1710 took possession of what was known as the Quinnatisset farm, about a mile south of the hill (now

occupied by Mr. Stephen Ballard). Mr. Converse was a man of middle age and excellent position and character, and was long regarded as the father of the growing settlement. His residence was the first south of the great wilderness between the colonies, traversed yet only by blazed paths, and served as a welcome resting place to many a wearied traveler. On the doubtful border-land adjacent Killingly the first settler was Richard Evans, as early as in 1693. His establishment, with "tenement of houses, barn, orchard, tanning pits and fulling mill," was purchased by Simon Bryant, of Braintree, in 1713, the happy father of seven blooming and capable daughters, the future mothers of many a Thompson family. The oldest daughter, Hannah, married her neighbor, William Larned, another early settler in this vicinity. Thomas Whitmore, James Wilson, Joseph Cady, Samuel Lee, Jonathan Hughes, were among the early residents of this old "South Neighborhood" very prominent in Thompson affairs, although their various farms and homesteads are now within the limits of Putnam.

The first regular settler in the northwest of Thompson was a man of much character and influence, Samuel Morris, son of Edward Morris, of Woodstock, who purchased fifteen hundred acres of the Dudley land on the Quinebaug in 1714. The "old Connecticut Path," long the chief thoroughfare of travel between Boston and southern colonies, ran past his dwelling house and through a mile of his estate. One of his first achievements was to bridge the turbulent and troublesome Quinebaug, then greatly addicted to freshets. He also built two smaller bridges over tributaries, expended time and labor in clearing out the channel of the river, and greatly improved the road and kept it in order. His energy and prowess gave him great influence over his Indian neighbors of Woodstock and the reservation northward, who honored him with the title of governor. Governor Morris was emphatically the great man of this section, and it was said that a blast from his conch-shell would bring a hundred Indians to his aid. Wild land south of the Morris farm, west of the Quinebaug, was owned and settled by Woodstock residents. The first to take possession were John Dwight, John Corbin and Penuel Child. Freak's farm, on Quinnatisset hill, passed on to Josiah Wolcott, of Salem, and his wife, Mary, niece of the original proprietor. In 1716 Wolcott, for £200, conveyed four hundred acres on the summit of this hill to Captain John

Sabin, first settler of Pomfret, agreeing "to defend said Sabin in quiet and peaceable possession of the premises, so that he be not forcibly ejected." With this guaranty, Captain Sabin's son Hezekiah took possession of the present Thompson hill and soon put up a large frame house, known even within the present century as "the old Red Tavern." This tavern soon became a place of familiar resort, especially when a country road was laid over the hill, accommodating Plainfield and Killingly with more direct communication with Boston. Along the French or Little Quinebaug settlers had already gathered, viz., David Shapley, Samuel Davis, James Hosmer, Nathaniel Crosby, Henry Ellithorpe.

Land north of Quinnatisset hill was bought up by Governor Saltonstall and Sampson Howe and sold out to settlers. Among these permanent residents were Comfort Starr, of Dedham; Benjamin Bixby, of Topsfield, and his nephew Jacob; Israel Joslyn, of Salem; Nathaniel Wight, Abraham Burrill, John Wiley, Nathaniel Brown, Joseph Ellis, James Coats, Samuel Narramore. Ivory Upham, of Malden, and Nathaniel Jacobs, of Bristol, R. I., were somewhat later in settlement. The first resident proprietor of land eastward in the vicinity of Quadic, was Henry Green, of Malden, with eight sons, in 1719. John Hascall, of Middleborough, Edward Munyan and William Moffatt, of Salem, also settled on the eastern line. Nathaniel Merrill purchased a farm near Quadic pond, now owned by Mr. Horace Bixby. His nearest neighbor on the west was Jonathan Clough, of Salisbury, whose old house is still standing, owned by Mr. Asa Ross.

The rapid increase of population in all parts of this tract was the more remarkable, considering its chaotic condition. The old boundary difficulty was slow in healing. Killingly regarded with great contempt the claims of its non-resident proprietors, and would gladly have ousted them from all possession, insisting that her town patent extended to the new boundary line of 1713, and rightfully covered the whole ground. In 1721 the selectmen of Killingly, without permission from government, proceeded to lay out portions of this ungranted land and make it over to previous residents and new comers, and exercised in many ways unlawful authority over these settlers. The original white proprietors of Quinnatisset and their representatives, Paul and William Dudley, Samuel Morris, the agent of Sir Joseph Thompson, and Josiah Wolcott, very strenuously opposed these

efforts of Killingly, and insisted that she had no right beyond the Woodward and Saffery line, on which she was laid out, and that the land north of this line should be erected into a distinct and independent township. As early as 1714 these gentlemen petitioned the general assembly for a town, and secured a vote in their favor from the upper house, but were unable to carry the lower. The government was poor and embarassed; Killingly was most persistent in her claim and conduct, and immediate decision was inexpedient. Delay only increased the difficulty of decision; both parties were too powerful to be offended, and so the matter drifted for many years. Killingly received permission to levy rates on the inhabitants for the support of her minister, but her petition to annex the land was flatly rejected, and she was positively forbidden to exercise any jurisdiction west of the Quinebaug. This strip of land bordering on Woodstock was long left "a peculiar"—unstated to any town, subject only to New London county and the general government. Possibly this very lack of organization made settlement therein more desirable and attainable, especially as contrasted with neighboring towns, where land was held by strong corporations and new comers subjected to very severe scrutiny, while Killingly opened heart and lands to all immigrants, and especially those who were willing to run the risk of ejection. Many sterling citizens received their original homesteads under the irregular if not unlawful apportionment of 1721. In several cases settlers were obliged to give up their allotments, the government of Connecticut always confirming the claims of non-resident land owners when a suit was brought to issue. It is very creditable to these early residents, that in spite of land disputes and the absence of local town officers, there is so little trace of disturbance. Practically they were left to shift for themselves; they had no schools, no suitable roads, no selectmen or constables, and only the privilege of attending church in Killingly's far-off meeting house.

Scattered over a wide section, still mostly a savage wilderness, they broke up land and built their log houses, knowing so little of each other that three families settling on the eastern frontier in 1721 supposed themselves the only inhabitants north of Killingly. The ten-years old boy of one of these families, Joseph Munyan, delighted in old age to tell the story of their emigration and early experiences. Over the long, rough road from

Salem to the purchased homestead, they brought their scanty household goods and stock—six cows, ten sheep, four hogs—sleeping by night on their cart, and foraging as best they could. Oxen were hired to draw the cart from one settlement to another. Reaching their new home after a long and wearisome journey, they found but rocks and wilderness. The great oak under which they encamped was covered with wild turkeys in the morning. Game of all kinds was abundant; brooks swarmed with fish; wolves chased and terrified the cattle. Pine knots were burned through the night to keep off wild beasts and Indians. During the first summer they built a log house and broke up and planted some land, from which in the autumn the daughters harvested three aprons full of corn. During the hard summers of 1725 and 1726, when crops were everywhere cut off by drought and frost, the Munyans were obliged to travel to old Hadley, in Massachusetts, to buy corn, a journey almost equal to that of Joseph's brethren into Egypt.

Henry Green and his numerous sons were very helpful in forwarding settlement at Pattaquatic. A saw mill was soon set up and in full motion, the dam built by the beavers furnishing sufficient water power. One of the most northerly settlers on the road to Boston was Benjamin Bixby, a little west of the present Brandy hill, whose house was also used as a tavern. Here occurred the only reported instance of Indian disturbance—the shooting of Mrs. Bixby in the thigh by a drunken Mohegan for refusing to give him more liquor, for which injury £17 was forwarded to Mr. Bixby by the Indians at New London. "The awful providence of heaven," in further visiting the unfortunate Mrs. Bixby by lightning stroke in a terrific thunder shower, called out universal sympathy and compassion, even Governor Saltonstall expressing his "tender concern" at this series of misfortunes.

Perhaps the most serious inconvenience resulting from the unorganized condition of the future Thompson was inability to provide suitable roads. To make a good road in its hard and rock-bound soil was a very difficult enterprise, requiring the authority of selectmen or suitable officers. Lacking such authority, the settlers simply "trod out" their own ways from house to house, and to such points as enabled them to communicate with the outer world. For public roads there was the "old Connecticut Path," obliquely crossing from Massachusetts line into Wood-

stock, below the site of the present New Boston. There was also the road from Plainfield, a wretched "old gangway," as it was sometimes called, very nearly corresponding with the present north and south road through the town. The entire lack of all other accommodations may be gathered from the universal cry that arose from all sections simultaneously, for "roads to Thompson meeting house" when that edifice was opened for public worship. They seemed demanded not merely as a matter of convenience, but out of respect to the day and occasion. Home-made, trodden-out paths might answer for going to mill and visiting neighbors, but a special "go-to-meeting" road seemed as indispensable as Sunday clothes. The only apparent use for a road was "to travel to Thompson meeting house" upon; at least no other object was hinted at in the numerous petitions with which Killingly was deluged. The selectmen of this town, only too happy to exercise authority over this coveted section, appointed a committee in 1730 to go to the parish of Thompson and to take a view and see what ways they need to go to their meeting house, and lay out what they think best, modifying this order by the subsequent vote—"That for the future every person that shall move to this town to have any way altered or removed, it shall be done at the petitioner's cost and charge." So arduous was the task laid upon the committee, so large the number of roads demanded, and so difficult of manufacture, that it seemed quite unable to grapple with it, and in the great majority of cases simply confirmed the roads "as trod out," or made slight alterations and improvements. Among the roads thus altered was the one "beginning west side of Quinebaug River, near Mrs. Dresser's, and on between Captain Howe's house and barn to the French River . . . and so as the road is now trod to ye meeting house"—varying little from the present road to West Thompson.

The road from "Sabin's Bridge" (now Putnam Centre) was a very remarkable achievement, accommodating Joseph Cady, Deacon Eaton and other widely separated prominent citizens, and also contriving to intersect "the path by which Simon Bryant already traveleth from his own dwelling house to Thompson meeting house." Still more remarkable was a road laid out by a special committee "chosen to view ye circumstances in ye quarter of ye Greens," which, starting from Thomas Whitmore's corner (now Whittlesy's, Putnam), mean-

dered leisurely about Pattaquatic, from Bloss's pasture alongside of a brook to an oak near Phinehas Green's house, thence to another oak in Henry Green's pasture, crossing and recrossing the stream at lower and upper fordways, and after accommodating all the families of that section, wound through Merrill's improved land "into the old road over Quinnatisset Brook, and so as the road goes till it comes into the country road, southwest corner of Hezekiah Sabin's little orchard, foreside of the meeting house." This very ancient road, "old" in 1735, is still extant and in good condition, forming the southern side of that nondescript geometrical conformation east of the village of Thompson called by courtesy "The Square." A venerable Seakonk sweeting and one or two Roxbury russets are the sole survivors of this primitive orchard. One of the ways left "as trod," to evolve itself in time into a passable cart road, was one demanded by Hascall, near the Massachusetts line, who had to let down twelve pairs of bars on his way to meeting. The condition of the road over which Samuel Morris was required to travel to that distant shrine will be best described by himself in another place. Among old roads still in use is what is called the "Mountain Road" to Putnam, which was laid out in 1763. To this very irregular and inconvenient style of road-making the present residents of Thompson are indebted for the number and variety of rural, romantic, roundabout drives for which it is distinguished, dating back to those old days when every household in town had a special way of its own.

The problem of bridge-making weighed very heavily upon the early settlers of Windham county. To construct a bridge that could withstand the swollen current of the raging Quinebaug, whose ravages it was declared "could not be paralleled in the colony," seemed beyond human attainment. Again and again bridges were constructed at great cost and labor, only to be swept away in a few months. Yet, in the face of all this discouragement, Mr. Samuel Morris contrived to build a bridge over the Quinebaug at his settlement, in 1717, which did good service for many years. No wonder that his Indian followers looked upon him as almost a supernatural power, and that the general assembly should exempt him from "paying any rates whatever" for the term of ten years. In 1722 a cart bridge was built over the Quinebaug by Sampson Howe and John Dwight, upon the road over which the latter afterward traveled to meet-

ing—a good bridge and great convenience to the public; but as a bridge had just been built below the High falls by Captain Sabin, with assistance from government, these builders were obliged to pay their own expenses. In process of time all the more traveled roads were supplied with bridges. A bridge was built over the French river by Henry Ellithorpe, on the present site of Grosvenor Dale, which bore his name for many years.

In 1727 the non-resident land owners in the colony land north of Killingly, together with Samuel Morris, made another earnest attempt to procure town privileges. Desiring "to have each one enjoy his purchase because it is inhabitants that do make a town, and a great part of the remaining land is rough and broken and but little more fit to be inhabited," they felt that all interests demanded "that a new town may be made there, so that we may know what town we are in." But the forcible pleas and representations of Killingly's foremost citizens—Joseph Leavens and Joseph Cady—decided the case against them, and it was decreed that a religious society or precinct should be erected instead of the desired township. By act of assembly, May, 1728, a society was formally set off and incorporated, known at first as the Second or North society of Killingly, and soon after as Thompson parish. Its southern bound was a line near the present residence of Mr. William Converse, of Putnam, extending west to the Quinebaug and east to Rhode Island. Organization was effected July 9th, 1728. By warrant from Justice Joseph Leavens, the inhabitants of the new precinct met on Quinnatisset hill, at the dwelling house of Hezekiah Sabin. Jonathan Hough was chosen moderator. "They then voted and chose Sampson Howe clerk for said society; the same, with Hezekiah Sabin and Benjamin Bixby, were chosen committee of the society." As the first object of their organization, they then voted, "To hire a minister to preach the gospel in said society, and to begin with us to preach the first Lord's day in August next ensuing; also, that Mr. Wales should be invited to preach the gospel to us and to continue with us for the space of six months." The place for public worship was not specified, but it was probably in Sabin's tavern house, as the most accessible from all parts of the society.

At the second society meeting it was proposed "To vote in the peculiars," meaning the residents west of the Quinebaug. A somewhat singular vote was passed August 13th, viz.: "Whether

every man that hath a house and land of his own belonging to this society, shall have liberty to vote and act with us in all affairs relating to the settling the worship of God in said society," and it passed in the negative. September 9th it was put to a vote, whether the society would ever build a meeting house, and it passed in the affirmative. Feeling their way carefully, item by item, it was agreed that the meeting house should be fifty feet long, forty feet wide and twenty-four feet stud, and that John Comings should be improved to be master workman in hewing and framing—having five shillings a day and his victuals. September 20th, the very important question, where to set the meeting house, was in order, and it was voted—"That it be set south side and near to the road that leads from John Cooper's to Benjamin Bixby's, right before the door of the house of Hezekiah Sabin, near where was an old wigwam"—a site near the center of the present common. An acre of land for a meeting house was given to the society by Mr. Sabin. "The affare of building our meeting house" was entrusted to Nathaniel Merrill, John Wiley, Uriah and Jaazaniah Hosmer, Hezekiah Sabin and Benjamin Bixby as a committee. It was also voted, "To give every man that works about the meeting house three shillings per day, he finding himself; that every man allowed to hew timber shall have three and sixpence; that the oxen that shall go to work about the meeting house shall be allowed eighteen pence per day; a horse that draweth, one shilling; for a cart, one shilling."

Further legislation in October gave the new society additional territory and powers. The "Peculiar," west of the Quinebaug, was formally annexed to the North society of Killingly. A yearly tax of ten shillings upon every hundred acres of land within its bounds was granted for four years, and the society committee empowered to use the money thus raised in building a meeting house and settling an orthodox minister. For preventing law suits and accommodating differences, the tract of land between the old and new north boundary lines, excepting what had been confirmed to original grantees, and needful equivalents, was now made over to Killingly.

Thus organized and equipped, the North society began its career, and joyfully entered upon the task of collecting and preparing timber for the much-desired meeting house. Deprived for so many years of ordinary religious and civil privileges, this happy set-

tlement and hopeful prospect was a matter of great rejoicing. In no other precinct or town within the county was this meeting house work carried on with such alacrity and harmony. "The people's hearts were stirred up and they willingly offered themselves." The little word "our" prefixed to all meeting house votes pleasantly indicates a personal sense of proprietorship. All over the large parish men and teams were busily at work. Giant oaks were levelled, hewn and hauled over the rough ways to the appointed site. So earnest and vigorous were the workers, that by November 15th, the society was called "to consider how and in what method we shall proceed in order for making preparation for the raising our meeting house." The method adopted was, "That every man in said society shall have liberty to bring in provisions and drink what may be thought his proportion." John Dwight, Benjamin Bixby, Hezekiah Sabin, Edward Converse, Jonathan Clough and Sampson Howe were appointed a committee to take care to provide for the raising. Under such auspices the work was triumphantly accomplished —the first great gathering assembled on Thompson hill.

The "liberty to bring in provisions and drink" had been so bountifully improved, that John Wiley and John Dwight were ordered to take particular account of what each man brought and give him credit for it, "the overplush to pay the 'rerages of hiring ministers." The rates allowed for provision were—pork, six pence a pound; beef, four pence; mutton, four pence; suet, eight pence; sugar, twelve pence; butter, one shilling; turnips, one and six pence per bushel; wheat, eight shillings; rye, six shillings; Indian corn, four shillings; cabbages, three pence per head. No stated minister was yet procured, but services were kept up through the winter at Sabin's tavern. January 20th, 1729, Ensign Green, Jonathan Eaton, Joseph Cady, John Dwight and Edward Converse were deputized "to agree with workmen to finish all the outside work belonging to our meeting house," and further instructed "to make Woodstock meeting house their pattern to go by, excepting what said committee shall judge superfluous in said house." Also voted, "That for the future every man that shall cart one thousand of boards from Green's mill to the meeting house shall have ten shillings money for the same." During the following summer the work went on so rapidly that on August 1st a society meeting was held in the new building. Such honest work had been expended upon its

massive frame, that after one hundred and sixty years of faithful service, it stands to-day erect and in good condition, the residence of Thompson's faithful clerk and treasurer. A minister was soon provided for the meeting house. October 16th, it was voted to extend a call to Marston Cabot, of Salem. This call was accepted after due consideration, provided the society fulfilled three articles:—

1. Their offer of £200 settlement.

2. That they always keep up the credit of the proposed salary, viz., £80 a year, adding £5 yearly till it reached £100.

3. That they bring him a sufficiency of cord-wood for his own use in the season of it.

Preparations were at once made for church organization and ordination. Platform, pulpit and deacon's seats were provided, neighboring ministers visited and consulted. January 28th, 1730 (O. S.), was kept as a day of fasting and prayer. Services were held morning and afternoon, conducted by Reverend John Fisk of Killingly, Reverend Ebenezer Williams of Pomfret, Reverend Amos Throop, Woodstock, and before the large assembly was dismissed, "We were incorporated and formed into a distinct church by having the church covenant read and owning our consent to it." The constituent members of the church in Thompson parish, known as the Second church of Killingly, were: Marston Cabot, pastor elect, Samuel Converse, James Wilson, John Wiley, Benjamin Bixby, Israel Joslin, Sampson Howe, John Russel, Jonathan Clough, Nathaniel Merrill, Hezekiah Sabin, Edward Converse, Nathaniel Johnson, Ivory Upham, Robert Plank, John Bowers, Ephraim Guile, Henry Green, Benjamin Pudney, Comfort Starr, John Barrett, Richard Bloss, Jonathan Eaton, David Shapley, Thomas Whittemore, Jr., Thomas Converse, Eleazer Green, Samuel Narramore. February 25th the same honored ministers, together with Reverend Messrs. Coit of Plainfield, and Hale of Ashford, assisted in the ordination of Mr. Cabot. Jonathan Eaton and Benjamin Bixby were soon after elected deacons.

"Divine worship" and ordinances being then happily established, various secular affairs claimed the attention of the society. In May, 1730, a military company was organized, with Sampson Howe for captain, Hezekiah Sabin, lieutenant, and John Dwight, ensign. The utter lack of schooling for children was a grievance much in need of abatement. January 15th, 1731, this

matter was considered, when it was agreed, "That there should be four schools kept in this parish, and the school master to be removed into four quarters of this parish." Four honored citizens, one from each quarter, viz., Jonathan Clough, Joseph Cady, Penuel Child and John Wiley, were straightway empowered "to divide this parish into four parts in order for the benefit and advantig of having their children educated each quarter in reading and wrighting and sifering." Spelling in those days was a quite superfluous accomplishment. The ordained "quarters" differed greatly in size according to the distribution of inhabitants. The Southeast, afterward "The South Neighborhood," was much the least, being far the most populous; next in size was the Southwest, taking in Cady's, Eaton's and other first families, while the great, irregular, sparsely settled Northeast and Northwest seemed almost like separate townships. Committees were chosen for each quarter, to warn the inhabitants to meet together to agree where to set their school houses, viz.: Southeast, Thomas Whitmore and Henry Green; Southwest, James Cady and Samuel Cutler; Northwest, Christopher Peak and Isaac Jewett; Northwest, Comfort Starr and Nathaniel Brown. A schoolmaster was hired for the year, serving three months in each quarter, the school money being "equally divided between each school, according to the number of families that sent their children to school."

Continued friction between the non-resident proprietors and Killingly officials resulted in a thorough investigation and settlement, through the agency of Roger Wolcott and other wise counsellors. The farms so early purchased and laid out were solemnly confirmed and Killingly precluded from farther intermeddling by having her own rights allowed to her. The North society, which during the squabble had petitioned to be erected into a township, was pacified and reconfirmed, the assembly at the same date, 1730, changing its name to that of her most distinguished non-resident, Thompson. This family had always manifested a special interest in their Nipmuck purchase; paid without grumbling the tax imposed by the society, and soon after date had the tract laid out into farms and seven substantial English "tenement housen" erected. The Dudleys also peaceably fulfilled their legal requirements. "Esquire Wolcott," as he was called, sold his farm to sundry purchasers. With Mr. Samuel Morris relations were less amicable. That gentleman

indeed paid off-hand the heavy land-tax, but when he found himself enrolled as a stated member of Thompson parish, and bound by law to pay his share of minister's salary and all other charges, he demurred. The section in which he lived was long supposed to belong to Massachusetts, and all his interests, civil and ecclesiastic, were with that colony, and before the erection of the new parish he had attended church and supported religious worship in Woodstock. At his time of life, and after all his public services, to be compelled to leave the church of his fathers and attend a new service at so great a distance seemed to him an absurdity, and equally unjust to pay for preaching which he had not heard.

But the ecclesiastic laws of Connecticut were not to be contemned, even by so great a man as "Governor Morris." The appointed collector came upon him for lawful dues, and when he refused to pay, took forcible possession of sufficient goods. Mr. Morris indignantly appealed to the assembly, showing, "that he lived seven miles from Thompson meeting house; never attended service there and never should; lived some miles nearer Woodstock, and had attended there till last winter, when he and others obtained a young gentleman to preach with them, and cheerfully assumed the great charge thereof, that so our families might have the benefit of Christian instruction, and not live like heathens; that he had paid a full tax to help build meeting house in Thompson, and prayed to be excused from paying anything more." This request was refused on the ground that Thompson had not been properly notified, whereupon Mr. Morris further represented, October, 1731, "that he could not even in summer, attend worship in Thompson with any tolerable convenience, nor in the winter without extreme peril, because of mountains and rocks to go over and miry swamps to go through; that he had a great regard for the minister at Thompson, and would like to sit under his ministry, but should count it a less evil to stay at home and read good books than to go through so much difficulty and hazard to attend at Thompson parish; that to be obliged to go there would have a tendency to discourage religious inclinations, besides causing a great part of holy time to be spent in very servile labor both to man and beast."

But none of these arguments, though reiterated year after year with much force and cogency, prevailed against the en-

forcement of a legal church tax, though a slight abatement was allowed and afterward a half-rate. The cost of collection must have been more than the sum at issue. Again and again the society was called together "to consider how to proceed in our difficulties with Samuel Morris." Every year committees had to be sent to general assembly to answer these indignant memorials. Legal authorities had to be consulted and paid, while the duty of collecting this disputed tax became so repugnant that many of the best men in the society refused to serve as collector, necessitating the enactment, that every person chosen collector and refusing to serve should be prosecuted in the law. Even as late as 1742, after Mr. Morris had helped establish public worship in his own neighborhood at Dudley, and insisted "that Thompson was more able to maintain their own minister than he was to help maintain two, and for him to pay so much money to Thompson for nothing, was more than God does, or more than men can reasonably require of their fellow creatures," he was only released "one-half of all parish taxes."

In all other respects Thompson enjoyed remarkable harmony. By slow degrees various improvements were effected. The pound so necessary in those days of free commons was constructed in 1735—"a good substantial pound," thirty feet square, with good white oak posts, and a good cap on top of them, a good gate well hanged with good iron hinges, a good lock and key and good staple and hasp—Hezekiah Sabin, pound keeper. "A piece of land" near the French river was given by David Shapley "for a burying place for said society." One of the earliest inscriptions to be found in it is that of a near resident, "Mr. Samuel Davis, who died August, 1727, in the 37th year of his age."

The finishing of the meeting house was delayed for some years. John Wiley and Sampson Howe "were the men to lay the floor," Jacob Bixby furnishing for that purpose for £3 per thousand, 500 pitch pine boards that are good. Simon Bryant, Henry Green and John Wiley had charge of constructing "a body of seats" after the form of those in Woodstock meeting house, using for "stuff," good sound oak timber. Henry Green, Jr., was employed "to provide plank for seats for our meeting house at 7s. per hundred, and the slit work for the seats at 4s. 6d. per hundred, and plank for the heads at 9s. per hundred, of good white oak timber." This body of seats occupied the floor

center, reserving room for seventeen large square pews against the walls of the house, to be built and owned by such members as were able to bear the expense and were thought worthy of such honor. The delicate duty of selecting these seventeen pew holders was assigned to Captain Howe, Simon Bryant and John Wiley, as a committee of nomination, who presented the subjoined list, which was confirmed by a society vote upon each nominee in succession, viz.: Henry Green, Simon Bryant, David Shapley, John Russel, Captain Howe, Lieutenant Sabin, Joseph Cady, Comfort Starr, Nathaniel Wight, James Wilson, Urian Hosmer, John Younglove, John Wiley, Mrs. Dresser, and her son Jacob, Mr. Dwight and his son John. A space on the north side of the house adjoining the minister's "stayrs" was reserved for a ministerial pew, and the deacons were allowed to build a pew "for their wives and families to sett in." Mrs. Dresser was the widow of the first settler, Richard Dresser, who had died just before the organization of the society. She held a high place among the "honorable women" of the day, and her son Jacob was one of the most substantial men in town and society.

Reverend Josiah Dwight was a retired minister, who after a stormy pastorate in Woodstock found a peaceful haven for his old age on the "wild land west of the Quinebaug." His pew joined the Reverend Mr. Cabot's, out of respect for his office as well as family connection, his daughter Mary having married the Thompson minister. It was then enacted by the Society "that each person that hath a pew granted him shall take it for his seat, and shall take in as many of their family as can conveniently sit therein; also, that each person shall finish the meeting house up to the lower girth, and maintain the glass belonging to his pew." Hezekiah Goffe, a famous builder of the day, was employed to build two pair of framed stairs and lay the gallery floor, and face the fore seats round with good, handsome panel work, all to be done workman-like. Still another committee was required to build seats in the gallery after the form of those in their respected model. So much time was consumed in erecting the elaborate pews and in all the various items, that it was not till March 18th, 1735, that "our meeting house" was sufficiently near completion to require a formal seating. This onerous task was assigned to Joseph Cady, Jr., Henry Green, Simon Bryant and Urian Hosmer, whose "rule to go by" was "computing all the charge of settling the gospel in said Society, having respect also unto age."

It was then, after seven years spent in perfecting this much prized sanctuary, that the builders as one man insisted upon worthier "ways" of reaching it.

Thus happily settled, Thompson parish pursued its way peacefully and prosperously. Its parochial affairs were well administered, and it bore a fair part of town burdens. Simon Bryant, John Dwight, Hezekiah Sabin, Jonathan Clough, Joseph Cady, Jedidiah and Urian Hosmer and Penuel Child were sent successively as deputies to the general assembly. Jacob Dresser was elected town clerk of Killingly in 1744. William Larned managed so well as treasurer of the town that he was voted a special payment for his services. Samuel Morris, in consideration of his maintaining roads and bridges, was exempt for life from town and country taxes. As the fathers passed away they were succeeded by their sons or competent new settlers. Sampson Howe died in 1736, and was succeeded as clerk and captain by Joseph Cady, the richest man in the vicinity. In 1742 Jacob Dresser was chosen society clerk, and John Dwight captain of the company. Jonathan Clough and William Larned succeeded in office Deacons Eaton and Bixby. Penuel Child was appointed in 1742 to serve in the new office of "querister." The Reverend Mr. Cabot, after a faithful and successful pastorate, died in charge in 1756, stricken with apoplexy in his own pulpit while preaching.

He was succeeded the following year by Noadiah Russel of Middletown, another popular and faithful pastor. Among new families connected with the society during Mr. Cabot's ministry were those of James and David Barrett, Isaac Stone, Nathaniel Child, John Atwell, Lusher Gay, Samuel Barrows, James Fuller, James Dike, William Alton, Samuel Porter, Jeremiah Barstow, Joseph Town, Josiah Mills, John Holmes, John Flint, Robert Prince, Ebenezer Howard, Francis Carrol, Francis and Joseph Elliot, Samuel Watson, Thomas Ormsbey, who took place among the substantial inhabitants, settling in various sections. The old "quarters" for school purposes were still maintained. In 1752 Samuel Barrows, William Whittemore, Nathaniel Child and John and Samuel Younglove were allowed the privilege of a school among themselves and their own proportion of school money. Five years later other petitioners were allowed a separate school in the northeast corner, "line to begin at Ezekiel Green's, thence east to Rhode Island and north to Massachusetts."

In 1762 a number of the younger men of the society entered

their dissent against the society's proceedings in regard to schools. Michael Adams, Pain Converse, Squier Hascall, James Dike and William Alton were appointed to "vewe the districts and see if they thought best to make alterations." They advised the setting off ten school districts and selected a suitable site in each for a school house. Each district was designated by the name of some central or prominent resident, viz.: 1. Landlord Converse's, including Thompson hill and vicinity, "school house to stand betwixt Landlord Converse's and the Widow Flint's, at the end of the lane where Samuel Converse comes out into the country rhoad," which "lane" is the present "Mountain road"; 2. Captain Adam's district, South Neighborhood; 3. Captain Green's district, Quadic and vicinity; 4. Nathan Bixby's district, the present Brandy hill and vicinity; 5. Samuel Stone's district, Northeast corner, from Joseph Munyan's to Rhode Island line; 6. Joseph Brown's district, present "Little Pond district"; 7. Squier Hascall's district, corresponded with the present Wilsonville, extending north to Massachusetts line, school house on the present site, "near where the said Hascall crosses the mill-rhoad in coming to meeting"; 8. Nathaniel Crosby's district, embraced both sides French river, from Nathaniel Mills' to Ebenezer Prince's, corresponding with the present Grosvenor Dale; 9. John Hewlet's, occupied the Northwest quarter, school house to stand where it is; 10. Esquire Dresser's district, in the Southwest quarter of the society, covering so much ground that to have the school "in the senter" would not accommodate the district, and two schools would be needful. The report was accepted as in the main satisfactory. A pitiful petition was soon, however, presented from inhabitants of Hewlet's district, complaining that they had been overlooked by the committee, "who supposed that no one lived northwest of a certain great hill but Clement Corbin, whereas there were *twelve* families there so remote from the school house that they could not send their children there to school, and had little or no benefit (the most none at all) of the school kept there, and never had any of the loan money, and not so much of the tax money as they did pay." These families were immediately set off as District No. 11, Captain Corbin's. After some delay and difficulty Dresser's district was also divided, and the north part set off as No. 12, Perrin's district.

Though debarred from special town privileges, the citizens of Thompson parish were awake to public affairs, and bore as ac-

tive a part in town administration as was practicable under their circumstances. At the annual town meeting in Killingly, 1760, Pain Converse and James Dike were elected selectmen; John Jacobs, John Whitmore, Benjamin Joslin, Daniel Alton, John Corbin, Francis Carrol, highway surveyors; David Barrett, grand juror; Samuel Watson, Richard Child, listers; Ensign Edward Converse, horse brander. In military affairs it was always active. A second military company was formed, taking in the northern residents, in 1754.

A number of Thompson men served in the French and Indian war—Samuel Larned as captain; Diah Johnson, ensign; Isaac Stone, Benjamin Joslin, Zebediah Sabin, Nathaniel Ellithorpe, Luke Upham, Joseph Town, Joseph Newell, Nathan Bixby, Thomas Shapley, Noah and John Barrows, as privates—many of them suffering severely through imprisonment and loss of health. In 1761 Edward Converse was appointed captain of the first Thompson company, then Company 7, 11th Regiment; John Alton, lieutenant; Joseph Elliott, ensign.

After the death of Samuel Morris, the valuable farm upon the Quinebaug was sold by his son to Benjamin Wilkinson, of Rhode Island, a man of great energy, but of restless and roving spirit. The capacious "Morris House" was now opened as a tavern. A shabby old traveler passing the night there, asked Mr. Wilkinson casually what he would take for the whole establishment. He named a large sum and thought no more of it till within a few weeks the old man appeared with a bag full of gold and silver, ready to close the bargain and pay hard cash for it. Amazed at his promptness and ever ready for trade and change, Wilkinson yielded the Morris purchase to the wily old man (Mr. John Holbrook, of Woodstock), and himself removed to Thompson hill, purchasing the "old Red Tavern" and Sabin farm, then thrown into market by the death of Lieutenant Sabin and the removal of his sons. The restless energies of Mr. Wilkinson found ample scope in this new field. As yet tavern and meeting house stood alone on the bare, broken hill-top. The minister's house, built by John Corbin, occupied the present site of Mr. Chandler's residence, southward. The small house built by Samuel Watson was north of the hill, and so encompassed by underbrush that it was said Mrs. Watson lost her way when trying to go to meeting. Mr. Wilkinson cut down the brush, routed off stones and ousted the aboriginal tree-stumps, transforming the rough field

into a comfortable common for "trainings." He "rectified" the pound and set out an extensive peach orchard east of the meeting house.

It was his benevolent practice to plant a peach stone by every rock on the road side, that boys, travelers and church attendants might have a free supply. He also served as the committee for enlarging the meeting house, which was done by cutting the same in two and inserting a strip fourteen feet wide between the bisections. This feat being accomplished, the society proceeded "to culler our meeting house," voting "That the cullering of the body of our meeting house should be like Pomfret and the Roff should be cullered Read;" Mr. Wilkinson's artistic instincts thus anticipating modern fashions. The inserted strip was laid out into pew spots and sold to such parishioners as were able to build upon them. Other spots were obtained by taking seats from the ancient "body," and little twenty-inch alleys were promiscuously devised "for the people to go into their seats." Three choristers were needed to lead the singing in the enlarged meeting house, together with Joel Converse and Thaddeus Larned, to assist the above "in tuning the psalm." Jacob Dresser, Lusher Gay and Simon Larned now served as deacons.

Mr. Wilkinson's tavern might have been considered as an adjunct to the meeting house, so much was it resorted to before service and at intermission. As a native Rhode Islander he was less strict in his views of Sabbath keeping than his Connecticut neighbors, but only on one occasion incurred official censure, after the whole congregation had been disturbed one hot summer day by what seemed the lugubrious creaking of a very rusty grindstone upon his premises, and after service he was waited upon with formal remonstrance. But to the great astonishment of the committee Mr. Wilkinson had the effrontery to deny the charge, even against the present evidence of their own ears. "Why, there it is grinding now louder than ever," they rejoined. "Come into the orchard and see for yourselves," replied the smiling landlord, and then formally introduced them to a *pair of Guinea hens*, a novel importation, whose doubtful cries, aggravated by homesickness, had subjected the rash experimenter to such official visitation. The "Red Tavern," under Mr. Wilkinson's administration, increased greatly in popularity, and was the scene of many a dance and

merry-making. Taverns were also kept by Edward Converse, James Dike and John Jacobs—the latter tavern becoming in time very famous as the halfway house between Boston and Hartford.

Although money was very scarce in those early days and the resources of the people very limited, Thompson, in some unaccountable way, seemed more favored than its neighbors, its tax-list considerably exceeding that of Killingly's first society. Its main industry was farming; its most convenient market the town of Providence, over the cart road constructed by Nathaniel Sessions of Pomfret. The first reported trader was Mr. Samuel Morris, who improved his eligible position on the old road to Boston by taking in his neighbors' produce and forwarding it to market. Business was carried on in other parts of the parish through the agency of a peculiar institution known as "the Butter cart" which picked up butter, eggs and all sorts of domestic products, to be exchanged for "store goods" in Boston and Providence. This institution was peculiarly valued by the wives and daughters, supplying them with pins, needles, beads, ribbons and little articles of finery dear to the feminine heart, and the return of the freighted vehicle was hailed like a ship from the Indies.

A very flourishing business was started in the South Neighborhood by Mr. Daniel Larned about the year 1770. A great revival of trade had followed the return of peace, especially between Providence and the West Indies, exchanging all kinds of colonial produce for those vital necessities, rum, sugar and molasses. Beginning in a small way by taking in the surplus products of his own neighborhood, Mr. Larned gradually extended business operations over a large section of country, sending carts and agents far up into the new settlements of Vermont and New Hampshire, buying up beef, pork, grain and ashes for Providence market. Taking for a partner Mr. John Mason, of Swanzey, the business increased in magnitude. Larned's store became a great place of resort for all the surrounding country. Rum, molasses, spices and even tea came into common use. It is said that the arrival of the first whole hogshead of molasses at this store was made a matter of public celebration, the children being allowed to indulge without stint in their favorite dainty—roasted potatoes and molasses, crammed down their throats sizzling and dripping. The ideal of supreme felicity, as ex-

pressed by a youth of that generation, was to sit "in the great room," with his especial adorable, and eat fried potatoes and molasses. Larned's store and residence were under the famous "Revolutionary Elm," of the South Neighborhood. Mason built the house now occupied by Mr. William Converse, of Putnam.

Their business, though much impeded by public disturbances, was kept up throughout the war period, and greatly revived after its close. New roads were laid out to accommodate "Larned and Mason." A nail shop was set up for the manufacture of iron utensils; potash and pearl ash made in large quantities; pork and beef packing carried on; great supplies of grain and produce taken in. Finding the maritime transfer of so much merchandise costly and inconvenient, Larned and Mason decided to build a special carrying-ship for themselves. A body of stalwarts was dispatched to cut and hew timber in the Thompson woods, and Green's saw mill engaged for the season. Captain Jonathan Nichols, a newly arrived citizen of much mechanical ingenuity, had charge of the work, and in a few months a neat little sloop was constructed and on exhibition at Quadic ship yard, a truly remarkable specimen of inland enterprise and architecture. Transported by sections to Providence, it was there carefully put together, and successfully launched as the sloop "Harmony," and brought its plucky owners both profit and glory. Under the stimulus and increased population of this flourishing business, the South Neighborhood was considered as quite the head of the new town which took the place of the old parish—"District No. One," as it was named in a revision of school districts.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

THE TOWN OF THOMPSON.—(Continued.)

Organization.—Affairs of the Body Corporate.—Foreign Trade and Traffic.—Highways.—Thompson Turnpike.—Fourth of July Celebration.—Protection against Small-pox.—General Progress.—New Town Scheme.—The Civil War.—Temperance Sentiment.—Modern Improvements.—Town Expenses and Government.—The Public Schools.—First Church of Thompson.—First Baptist Church.—Baptist Church of Thompson Hill.—Methodists at West Thompson.—Fisherville Methodist Church.—East Thompson Methodist Church.

TOWN organization was secured with less than customary controversy. In many respects the parish had enjoyed unusual privileges, and its local interests were quite distinct from those of the mother town. In 1761 the vote was carried "that Thompson Parish be set off as a town—Jacob Dresser, Esq., agent for preferring a memorial;" but in the threatening condition of public affairs division was deemed inexpedient. In 1782 it was again voted in Killingly town meeting, "That said town be divided and Thompson Parish be a distinct town," and division again refused by the general assembly. Renewed petition May, 1785, carried the day. The North society of Killingly and its inhabitants were constituted a distinct town by the name of Thompson, said town to be responsible for its share of state taxes, pay one-half the debts and share one-half the credit and stock of the former town, and support the poor belonging within its limits.

In compliance with this act and lawful warning, Thompson held its first town meeting June 21st, 1785, "at the Rev. Mr. Russel's meeting house," on Thompson hill. Deacon Simon Larned, oldest justice and most honored citizen of the new town, was appointed by assembly to preside at the meeting and lead its inhabitants to the choice of moderator and clerk. Jason Phipps, Esq., from the northwest section, was chosen moderator, and Jacob Dresser town clerk. The freeman's oath was then administered to seventy-eight persons. They then voted and

chose Thomas Dike, Esq., Captain Pain Converse, Simon Larned, Esq., Jason Phipps, Esq., Mr. Stephen Brown, selectmen; Jacob Dresser, town treasurer; Simon Davis, Peleg Corbin, constables; Jason Phipps, Samuel Barrett, Jacob Converse, Ebenezer Prince, John Bates, John Jacobs, Deacon William Richards, highway surveyors and collectors; Amos Carrol, William Richards, fence viewers; Henry Larned, Jonathan Ellis, Samuel Palmer, William Richards, listers; Simon Davis, Peleg Corbin, town collectors; John Wilson, leather sealer; Ebenezer Cooper and Jeremiah Hopkins, grand jurymen; Nathan Bixby, Peter Jacobs, Edward Paull, tithing men; Amos Carrol, sealer of weights and measures; Joseph Watson, key keeper. Captains Daniel Larned and Pain Converse, and Thomas Dike, Esq., were chosen to join with such gentlemen as Killingly should appoint to settle all debts and charges, and divide debts and credits as directed. Jacob Dresser was authorized to purchase books for the town records.

At the annual town meeting, December 12th, some of these officers were replaced by Alpheus Converse, Ensign Joseph Brown, Daniel Russel, Roger Elliott, Captain Jonathan Nichols, Edward Joslin, William Smith, Asa Barstow, James Paull, Joseph Gay, Captain Simon Goodell, John Carrol, James Hosmer, Ephraim Ellingwood, Peter Stockwell, Elijah Bates, John Wilson, providing for a more equable distribution of town offices among all classes and sections. Jacob Dresser was retained many years as town clerk and treasurer. Accounts between the two towns were settled with promptness and harmony, the "credits" allowed to Thompson out-balancing the debts by some twenty-five pounds. By an arrangement with the ecclesiastic society the meeting house continued to be used for town meetings and other public purposes. Jason Phipps was sent as Thompson's first representative to the general assembly. Others sent during these early years were: Obadiah Clough, Jonathan Nichols, Pain Converse, William Dwight, Israel Smith, Thaddeus, Henry, George and Daniel Larned, Simon Davis, Joseph Gay, John Jacobs, Jr., Noadiah Russel, Wyman Carrol, Isaac Davis.

Major Daniel Larned was elected in special town meeting, November 5th, 1787, to represent the town as delegate to the state convention called to ratify the federal constitution. A committee was soon sent to consult with committees from other northern towns with regard to obtaining a new county or half-shire, and upon receiving its report the town voted to instruct "our deputies to

join with Pomfret deputies with regard to making Pomfret a half-shire, with this proviso, that we may be free of cost of court house and jail." The young town looked carefully at the *cost* of any expenditure, and managed its affairs with much shrewdness and economy. Amount due for ordinary expenses, allowed January, 1795, including payment of listers, £53; balance in treasurer's hands, £65; debts allowed by town, January, 1796, £56, 16s.; paying bounty for crows' heads, at 8d. a head, agreeable to a rate of the town, 7s., 4d.; whole amount, including abatements, £58, 12s.; balance due from treasurer, £170, 17s., 11d.

School and highway repairs were managed mainly districtwise, with reference to the town in doubtful cases. In military matters there was much enthusiasm, stimulated by the appointment of Daniel Larned to the generalship of the Fifth brigade, the only citizen of Thompson ever attaining to that honor. The several companies included in the Eleventh regiment were filled with willing recruits, and the grenadier and infantry companies equally alert and ready for parade and action. The frequent training and musters on Thompson common were observed with delight by all participants and spectators. The general training held at Thompson hill during the administration of General Larned was unfortunately discommoded by a very severe rain storm, but the spirits of the dripping soldiers were kept up by the bountiful supply of free liquor, furnished gratuitously by the general and his predecessor in office, General McClellan.

The Providence and West India trade, instituted before the revolution by Larned & Mason, was carried on with much spirit until the sudden death of the senior partner, in 1797. His funeral was made the occasion of the greatest military and Masonic display ever witnessed on Thompson hill. The *New London Gazette* reports: "General Larned was buried under arms. His corpse was attended by the brethren of Moriah Lodge to the meeting house, where a sermon was preached by the Rev. Daniel Dow; a Masonic address and prayer followed by the Worshipful Master of Moriah Lodge. A procession was then formed and moved to the grave in the following order: Military; Masons, clothed with the badges of their order; Clergy; Pall (corpse) bearers; Mourners and Strangers." After an elaborate eulogium pronounced by Mr. Daniel Putnam, the ceremonies were closed

by a Masonic prayer by the worshipful master and a sprig of cassia deposited on the coffin.

The privilege of ordering and making her own highways was joyfully assumed by Thompson, ever painfully conscious of early privation in this regard. "A road from Thompson to Muddy Brook Line by the way of Mr. David Jewett's," and another from Child's mills (now Wilsonville) to Dudley line leading to Dudley meeting house, were at once allowed; also a special road for the accommodation of Larned & Mason, running east of Fort hill through "the Thompson Land," considerably shortening the distance to Boston. Travelers over this road were accommodated at the new tavern opened by Mr. James Dike. New roads were laid out in various sections, and many old ones rectified. The project of establishing turnpike roads with stage coaches and mails running regularly over them was hailed with enthusiasm. Captain Jonathan Nichols, Israel Smith and Jacob Dresser were commissioned by the town "to wait upon the committee appointed by the General Assembly to view and lay out a stage road from Hartford to Massachusetts or Rhode Island Line." Captain Nichols and his associates were incorporated in 1797 as "The Boston Turnpike Company," and to him was entrusted the oversight of constructing the road. The work consisted mainly in straightening and widening roads previously existing, viz., the north and south road through the town, and the old road to West Thompson. A change was made in the road over Thompson hill which previously ran considerably west of the present lay out. A new bridge was built over the French river, formidable gates and toll houses erected, milestones lettered and set up, and the Boston and Hartford turnpike opened for public accommodation, bringing in the stage coach, daily mails and nineteenth century civilization.

Business was made much more lively but town expenses proportionately increased. The proposal to lay out another turnpike from Rhode Island line to Dudley, east and west through the town, met with strong opposition from reluctant tax-payers. A committee was appointed to lay out such road—Captain Jonathan Nichols, Simon Davis and Roger Elliott to wait upon them. The town rejected their report and refused liberty to begin the road. After some years' effort the town refrained from opposing petition. Elijah Crosby, Joseph Watson, Nathaniel Jacobs, Peleg Corbin, Thomas Chaffee, Noadiah Russel, John Nichols, and

associates were thereupon incorporated as "The Thompson Turnpike Company," in 1803, and a second turnpike was soon opened, becoming a main thoroughfare of travel between Providence and Springfield, intersecting the Boston turnpike on Thompson hill. Stages were run daily over both lines, and a vast amount of travel and teaming passed over them. A third turnpike was at about the same date constructed in the south part of the town, known as the Woodstock and Thompson turnpike, furnishing another route to Providence, and connecting westward with Somers. These enterprises brought heavy bills of expense upon the town, increasing the annual outlay from seven or eight hundred dollars to over two thousand; but by care and larger assessments all debts were paid, and in 1810 and 1811 expenses had dropped down to less than a thousand dollars, with a balance in the treasury. Nathaniel Mills succeeded as town clerk and treasurer in 1798, serving faithfully many years.

Increased business and growth in all parts of the town more than counter balanced the outlay. Thompson hill enjoyed a special boom with its stages and new inhabitants. Its first store was opened in 1796, by Daniel Wickham, in a new building east of the common, now the rear of Doctor Holbrook's residence. A new tavern house was built on the site southward by George Keith, especially for the entertainment of stages and their passengers, which after many years of service has been recently demolished. The present "Watson House" was built by Mr. Joseph Watson in 1798. Several other houses were built on the Providence turnpike. Enterprising young men from various parts of the town were drawn to the growing village. John Nichols, 2d, and Theodore Dwight entered into partnership, erecting a store at the intersection of the turnpikes, on the site now occupied by Mr. Scarborough's residence. The only house north of this was that now occupied by Judge Rawson, built by Mr. Samuel Watson in 1767, and long the residence of his venerable widow.

The new business impulse quickened all parts of the town. Labor came into demand and land increased in value. The farms east of Fort hill, owned by the English Thompsons, were now brought into market. Thaddeus and Daniel Larned procured a quit claim deed from the agent of the family in 1803, for fourteen thousand dollars, and soon sold out the farms to lessees and other purchasers. The last of these substantial "tenement

houses" has been taken down within a few years. Manufacturing interests were now coming to the front. The various saw mills on the different streams were busily at work. Josiah Perry and Elijah Child carried on grinding, sawing and dyeing on the French river, in the extreme north of the town. Rufus Coburn and Alpheus Corbin engaged in clothiery and potash works on the Quinebaug, at the present New Boston. Stephen Crosby was equally active in similar works on the site of the present Grosvenor Dale, and talk of new discoveries in cotton spinning was already in the air. In the extreme northeast Joseph Joslin was running mills, making potash and helping open Buck hill to civilization, himself carrying through the first cart road over that benighted section. A sometime resident of Rhode Island, and believer in state rights, he was one of the early leaders in organizing the Jeffersonian party in Thompson.

The early politics of the town were strongly federal and conservative, and it was not till 1803 that sixteen votes were cast for the republican or administration party; but so rapid was its growth, enhanced by Methodist and Baptist votes, that in 1806 it cast 96 votes, only 13 less than the federalists. The first Fourth of July celebration on Thompson hill was held by the Jeffersonian republicans the same year—Doctor Knight (postmaster), Captain Jonathan Converse and Joseph Joslin, committee. A bower was put up on the treeless common, a band of music procured, and appropriate toasts prepared. Joseph Wheaton served as president of the day, Elder John Nichols read the declaration of independence and offered prayer, "and there was a good entertainment and a good oration, delivered by Elder Amos Wells, of Woodstock," a Baptist minister. The approaching troubles with England checked the growth of this party, Thompson sharing with the majority of Connecticut towns in its dislike of the war of 1812. Unlike many other towns, she made no formal record of hostility, and promptly fulfilled every requisition of government —a number of her citizens performing military service in New London.

A victory of peace was won in 1811, the town consenting after long urging to provide for "the inoculation of the Kine pox among the inhabitants." A committee was appointed to agree with Doctor Fanchear upon terms and a committee of two in each school district to see that it was faithfully carried out. The persons serving were, in No. 1, George Larned, Eleazer Keith;

2, James Wheaton, Daniel Perrin; 3, Jonathan Nichols, Jr., John Elliott, Jr.; 4, Noadiah Russel, James Webb; 5, John Barrett, Ebenezer Green; 6, Josiah Comins, Marshall Keith; 7, James Bates, Elijah Nichols, Jr.; 8, William Lamson, Jesse Ormsbey; 9, Thomas Chaffee, Isaac Upham; 10, Timothy Sheffield, Elijah Converse; 11, Abel Jacobs, John Keith; 12, Samuel Porter, Jesse Joslin; 13, Dolphus Phipps, Jonathan Waters.

John Nichols was chosen clerk and treasurer in 1814. It having been decided in 1816 by the ecclesiastic society to build a new meeting house on the site of the old one, the town defrayed the expense of removing the old church edifice across the street and fitting up a hall for permanent town purposes. The first page of a new book of town records now ordered by the town chronicled an important change—the inhabitants were notified to meet at the town house July 4th, 1818, to choose delegates to attend a convention to be holden at the state house in Hartford in August for the purpose of forming a constitution of civil government. George Larned and Jonathan Nichols, Jr., were then chosen to represent the town and took part in that weighty public service. October 5th, the freemen were again summoned to give their votes for or against a ratification of the constitution as submitted to their judgment and decision; one hundred and seventy-four voted for ratification, ninety-three against it.

At the annual town meeting following the adoption of the new constitution November 30th, 1818, Benjamin Arnold was chosen moderator; Stephen Crosby, Jesse Ormsbey, Joseph Joslin, James Wheaton, John Bates, selectmen; John Nichols, Jr., town clerk and treasurer; Stephen E. Tefft, constable; for highway surveyors by districts—No. 1, Simon Davis; 2, James Wheaton; 3, John Elliott, Jr.; 4, Hezekiah Olney; 5, John Burrell, Jr.; 6, Isaac Davis; 7, Smith Bruce; 8, Alpheus Corbin; 9, Lyman Upham; 10, Ezra Jacobs; 11, Joseph Benson; 12, Rufus Brown; 13, Peter Rickard; 14, Darius Starr; David Munyan, Alpheus Russel, Eseck Aldrich, fence viewers; John Nichols, Jr., Simon Davis, Jr., Stephen Holmes, James Bates, Harvey Lamson, listers; Stephen E. Tefft, collector of rates; Smith Bruce, Amos Green, John Brown, Joel Taylor, Elijah Nichols, grand jurors; Asa Hutchins, Joel Taylor, Archelaus Upham, Millard Bowen, haywards; Rufus Coburn, sealer of weights and measures; Darius Dwight, key keeper of the pound; Josiah Sessions, Amos Green, Jonathan Nichols, Asa Jacobs, Charles Sharpe, tithing men.

Town expenses for the year reported—$1 609.45. Seven hundred and fifty dollars was cheerfully voted by the town the following year as their reasonable proportion of the sum needed for the removal of court house and jail from Windham to Brooklyn.

Under the new regime of state and county Thompson moved steadily onward, its wealth and population increasing more rapidly than any other town in the county, its thriving manufacturing villages offering remunerative labor and home market. Gradually various improvements were effected; its poor were no longer trundled about town to the lowest bidder, but installed in a comfortable home in the east of the town, with a responsible family to take proper care of them. The upper room of the old town house proving insufficient and inconvenient, a special town building was ordered in 1841. William H. Mason, Faxon Nichols, Talcott Crosby and William Fisher were appointed to fix upon a plan for the proposed building and make a statement of all the expenses. Their report was accepted, the town's right and interest in the old building sold to Messrs. Erastus Knight and Edward Shaw—Talcott Crosby, Jonathan Nichols and Hezekiah S. Ramsdell appointed a committee for building. In case a town meeting should be needed while the new building was in progress, it was voted to hold the same on the piazza in front of the house of Captain Vernon Stiles, and when the new town house shall have been completed, that it shall be the lawful place for holding town and other public meetings.

After holding several meetings during the summer on the piazza of Captain Stiles's popular tavern, the town met in its new hall October 3d, 1842. Jonathan Nichols, Esq., who for twelve years had served as town clerk, was now superseded by Talcott Crosby; George Nichols was chosen moderator; Faxon Nichols, Nelson S. Eddy, Winthrop H. Ballard, James Johnson and Amos Goodell, assessors; John Tourtellotte, Stephen Crosby, Thomas Davis, board of relief; Edward Lippitt, David Wilson, Joseph Tourtellotte, selectmen; Edwin May, constable; Amos Goodell, Silas Bowen, Welcome Bates, Leonard Bugbee, Silas N. Aldrich, grand jurors; George Town, George M. Day, Elijah Carpenter, John Shumway, Pearson C. Tourtellotte, Samuel E. Joy, tithing men; Jeremiah Olney, sealer of weights and measures; Hezekiah Olney, pound keeper; Thomas Davis, Josiah Comins, Joseph Tourtellotte, fence viewers; Talcott Crosby, Jesse Ormsbey, Hez-

ekiah Olney, committee for adjusting town accounts. Expenses were reported as $1,540. Voted, to allow the school visitors one dollar per day each for time actually spent in visiting schools. Petitioners received liberty to hold their singing school in the town house the ensuing season, under such regulations as should be made with the selectmen, as soon as insurance could be effected on the house. At a later meeting voted, "That the town house be opened for all such meetings as the selectmen shall judge proper, and on such terms as they may prescribe." One of the first public meetings held in this house was in the autumn of 1843, when the children of all the public schools in town, having been recently enrolled in temperance societies, were brought together there, to be confirmed and strengthened in temperance sentiment by the thrilling eloquence of a young orator then lately discovered in Worcester—John B. Gough.

The peace and comfort of the town was suddenly broken in 1849 by a movement to dissever the southern part of the territory, that it might be incorporated into a new valley town to be called Quinebaug. The village of Rhodesville now embraced a large manufacturing interest, adding much to the tax list and population of the town. This village, and that favorite section known as the South Neighborhood, were to be taken from Thompson and swallowed up in the new town. Thompson's population then numbered nearly five thousand, and it stood very high on the grand list of the state, closely following the cities and large county or manufacturing towns. Apart from considerations of sentiment, to be thus summarily thrust from her high position into comparative nothingness, to sink from "thirteenth on the list" into the rank of perhaps thirtieth or fortieth, was not to be thought of or endured, and all parties and sects agreed in earnest opposition to such a scheme. The town had taken just pride in this thriving village and great pains to satisfy its exorbitant demands for roads and bridges. When called upon to take action upon the petition, Jonathan Nichols was appointed agent to oppose the same, with full power to employ counsel if needful. "Also, resolved, That we, the citizens of Thompson, in town meeting assembled, consider that the division of this town as contemplated by the inhabitants of Pomfretville would be highly injurious to the interests of the town at large, and consequently as highly inexpedient, and that our representatives in the general assembly be and they are hereby re-

quested to oppose in every honorable manner the establishment of said division."

The very urgent opposition of the four towns interested in the matter procured the prompt rejection of the Quinebaug petition, but after taking breath for a season they returned to the charge with increased ardor. Thompson reiterated and confirmed her former resolution and circulated a forcible remonstrance, signed by a large number of citizens. Thomas E. Graves, Esq., was now appointed agent to oppose the petition, which service he accomplished with his accustomed energy and adroitness. In 1852 Talcott Crosby, Benjamin F. Hutchins and William H. Chandler were chosen "to consult and advise" with Esquire Graves in opposing the petition. In 1854 the situation became so alarming, the new town favorers assuming with the name a double portion of the spirit and persistency of Windham county's most famous hero—Putnam—that Thompson was constrained to send a most imposing delegation, viz., Thomas E. Graves, Talcott Crosby, William Fisher, Jesse Ormsbey, Frederic Hovey, Benjamin F. Hutchins, Jeremiah Olney, Silas N. Aldrich and Hosea Munyan, "to oppose the petition for a new town to be called Putnam." Once more the petitioners were defeated and Thompson's delegation returned in triumph. In 1855 William H. Chandler was appointed as sole agent for the town in opposing division. It was becoming manifest that farther opposition was useless; that nothing could withstand the march of progress and fiat of "manifest destiny." The treacherous motion "to send no agent to oppose division" was lost by only a meagre majority of forty-three. Tidings of the inevitable result were received with mournful resignation, and while Putnam joyfully celebrated her victory and independence, Thompson meekly grounded her arms and prepared to die decently. The line between the towns was run by Joseph M. Perrin and William Lester, surveyors. Division of town funds and other needful settlements were accomplished by Adams White and William Dyer, esquires, the referees appointed by the legislature—the charge of two "paupers" and some $2,500 being made over by Thompson. The running expenses of the town during this costly and protracted contest reached the unprecedented amount of nearly $4,000 yearly. Erastus Knight and Jeremiah Olney served successively as town clerk and treasurer during this period.

Thompson had so far recovered from this loss and heavy charges as to bear her part in the civil war with becoming loyalty and public spirit. At a special town meeting, called April 29th, 1861, the town voted to appropriate five thousand dollars for extra payment to enlisters, support of their families during their absence, their clothing, equipment and other needful outlay. Messrs. Jeremiah Olney, Lucius Briggs and Hezekiah S. Ramsdell were appointed a committee to carry these votes into effect. At the county mass meeting held in Brooklyn, April 22d, Messrs. Chandler and Olney served on the committee on resolutions, and Mr. Chandler headed the subscription list pledged for the support of government. The popular physician, Doctor John McGregor, went to the front as surgeon of the Connecticut Third, and was taken prisoner while caring for the wounded at the disastrous stampede at Bull Run. His return after fourteen months' wearisome captivity, his earnest and affecting representations and pleas had much influence in quickening enlistment and deepening public sentiment. Many of Thompson's sterling men enlisted in the Eighteenth Connecticut, mustered in August, 1862, with Munroe Nichols, lieutenant colonel, and Doctor Lowell Holbrook, later, as surgeon. George W. Davis served as quartermaster of the Eleventh regiment. Lieutenant Emmons E. Graves enlisted a company in the Thirteenth. Every requisition made upon the town was promptly fulfilled, her soldiers serving in many regiments; her agent, Mr. Olney, and the selectmen looking carefully after the needs of their families; her women enrolled in numerous Soldiers' Aid Societies, busily engaged in furnishing clothing and supplies. The great additional expense, bringing its annual outlay to more than nine thousand dollars, was cheerfully met by taxpayers. True to its early principle and habit of eschewing debt, it paid its bills every year. In August, 1865, a very large bill was brought against it, incurred the last year of the war in connection with raising colored soldiers. A town meeting was called, which promptly voted to raise a special tax of 8½ mills on the dollar by September 20th. A proposition was afterward made to provide for paying the debt by installments, and a meeting called to see if they would rescind the previous vote. It was a warm day in August and work pressing, but the town turned out *en masse* and voted unanimously *not to rescind* the vote passed August 5th, and paid the extra tax without grumbling.

As a temperance town Thompson has a fair record. As public opinion became enlightened upon the question, it declined to license the sale of liquor, and when the local-option law was promulgated a large majority voted against license. Finding that the law was in many cases evaded, it was voted in 1873 to appropriate a sum of money to suppress the sale of intoxicating liquors; also to appoint Judge Perry an agent to prosecute, with power to employ counsel to carry on said business. As the foreign element has increased in town, attempts have been made to open the question of licensing the sale of liquor, but it has been invariably refused by a large majority.

Within the last ten years a very great change has been made in the expenditures of the town, Thompson proving itself not only alive but fully up to the times in its views of what is demanded by the civilization of the present age. The clumsy wooden bridges of past generations are fast being replaced all over the town by graceful structures of iron, more costly, indeed, but it is hoped far more enduring. The old district highway system, under which every citizen had liberty to leisurely "work out his own tax" has been superseded by more modern methods, more effective, indeed, but costing the town annually, perhaps, more than double its whole running expenditures of former years. A far greater number of outside poor are helped, doubling expenses in that quarter. School expenses, formerly hardly worth noting, have become under new laws and administrative theories a very formidable item. The price paid for labor and the salaries of town officers are much augmented. Many improvements have been made of permanent value. Money has been allowed for the improvement and care of the town burying grounds. A very beautiful and complete index of the record books of the town was made by the late Mr. Jerome F. Crosby. The town house has been comfortably fitted up with accommodations for the probate records and for town business.

The expenses of the town for the year ending September 15th, 1888, amounted to the incredible sum of over $26,000. Schools cost $6,579.37; bridges, $5,445.89; roads, $4,441.36; poor house and farm, $1,157.70; outside poor, $1,909.69; officers' salaries, $993.45; snow bills (blizzard), $905.41; vital statistics, $50.50; state and military tax, $2,715.77. The population in 1880 was 5,051, but has probably increased some hundred; children between four and sixteen years of age, 1,415; grand list, $1,713,420. The

present town clerk, registrar and treasurer, James N. Kingsbury, has held the office nearly twenty years. Present selectmen, Oscar Tourtellotte, Thomas G. Steere, George A. Hawkins; assessors, Hiram Arnold, Luther M. Child, Jerome Nichols; board of relief, George Flint, Oscar Robinson; grand jurors, Thomas Wilber, Barton Jacobs, Thomas Ryan, A. E. Jones, Nathaniel Child; constables, William M. Babbitt, William N. Bates, John Tradeau, George A. Putney; school visitors, Stephen Ballard, E. H. Cortiss, E. F. Thompson. Reverend N. J. Pinkham had previously served many years in this office.

A Probate court was constituted in Thompson in 1832, John Nichols, judge. Previous to that date it had been included in Pomfret probate district. The office of judge has been administered by Talcott Crosby, Jonathan Nichols, Alanson Rawson, George Flint, and by others for very brief periods. Judge Flint entered upon service July 4th, 1873.

Public schools continued under the administration of the ecclesiastic society till 1797, when by a change of law it was recognized in the "capacity of a school society." Liberty had been previously given to the several districts to tax themselves for the purpose of building and repairing a school house, to choose a clerk and appoint a collector and treasurer. In 1798 it was further enacted "that each school society shall appoint a suitable number of persons to be overseers or visitors of its schools, whose duty it shall be to examine the instructors, superintend and direct the instruction of the youth in letters, religion, morals and manners, to appoint at their discretion public exercises for the youth, to visit the schools twice at least during each season for schooling, and particularly to direct the daily reading of the Bible by such of the youths as are capable of it, and the weekly instruction in some catechism, by them approved, and to recommend that the master conclude the services of each day with prayer."

Reverend Daniel Dow, Noadiah Russel and Daniel Wickham were accordingly appointed visitors and "inspectors" of the Thompson school, and on May 1st, 1799, presented an elaborate report, recommending a faithful examination of school teachers, each master to consider it "a necessary requirement to be able to read and write English with propriety," to explain the spelling book, and to perform common arithmetic; that a moral character be considered indispensable, and a knowledge of Eng-

lish grammar very desirable; teachers to exercise their own choice between the shorter Westminster catechism and Doctor Watt's catechism for children. These recommendations were faithfully carried out. Examination of teachers was duly enforced, Bible read daily, and catechism administered. Reading, writing and spelling were taught in all schools throughout the year, to which were added arithmetic and grammar in the winter, sewing and knitting in summer. The school-ma'ams' task of overseeing the sewing, basting and sometimes cutting out and fitting garments, was often very arduous. Some little girls were even required to make underwear for their fathers and brothers in school hours. No girl was thought to have thoroughly learned the alphabet until she had acquired the art of affixing each separate letter perfectly upon an elaborate sampler.

Geography was taught in very economic fashion, the older scholars reading it to the school in place of other reading exercise, sparing the necessity of buying more than one copy. Saturday afternoons they were allowed, as a special treat, to read aloud by turns, in the weekly county newspaper, before recitation in the catechism. Mr. Dow was accustomed to visit and catechize each school in town, if possible, twice during the season—the brethren of the church, resident in each district, making a point of attending with him at such visitation. To make amends for this strictness there were weekly spelling matches, when boys and girls enjoyed the privilege of "choosing up sides" and spelling each other down, ransacking spelling books for the most difficult specimens of orthography. Evening exhibitions were also much in vogue, with declamation, recitation and amusing dialogue. The last day of the winter school was celebrated with especial festivities, the boys contributing pennies to purchase the requisite materials for a generous bowl of flip, and the girls bringing cake and home-made dainties. A popular teacher in the South Neighborhood was accustomed to give the children a closing *ball* in his own house. Five shillings a week was considered ample pay for a school mistress; a successful master could command as much as two dollars. The school house of that date was usually as bare, cold and comfortless a building as could well be devised, but a daughter of Mr. Dow gives a pleasant picture of that in the Central district.

This Thompson Hill district school house must have been quite exceptional. As a rule the school houses were close, crowded, and every way uncomfortable, with great cracks in the floor and about the windows, the huge fires burning the faces of the children while their feet were freezing. The numerous children in every household filled the houses to overflowing, especially in the winter, when the schools frequently numbered more than a hundred pupils. Their progress depended entirely upon the personality of the teacher, some having that native teacher's instinct or faculty which enabled them to stimulate intellect even under those disadvantages. Captain John Green was one of these "born teachers," whose services were in great demand for many years throughout the town. His brother, Winthrop Green, Messrs. Horace Seamans and Winthrop H. Ballard, are remembered as successful teachers. Among the schoolmistresses none gained a higher rank than Miss Hope B. Gay, a shining member of Priest Atkin's celebrated "class" upon Killingly hill, and highly gifted with the art of imparting her own knowledge to others and winning the respect and affection of her pupils. As a rule, however, the standard of the district schools was so low, and the accommodations so poor, that well-to-do families preferred to send their children to select schools or academies. Thompson boys were sent to Plainfield, Woodstock or Dudley Academies. Especially favored young girls had the privilege of a year's schooling in one of the noted "female schools" of Hartford, where they added to solid studies the accomplishments of painting, drawing, music and fine embroidery.

The first piano in town was purchased for one of these young ladies about 1820, who in turn instructed the other girls of the village in those rare arts. The first select school in Thompson was opened by Miss Caroline Dutch, an experienced teacher, in 1824, where a large number of charming young ladies were trained in polite accomplishments. Select schools were also taught by Messrs. Welcome Wilmarth, David Fisk, —— Cooley and Matthew Mills. In 1837 a high school was opened by Mr. Thomas P. Green, of Auburn, Mass., which gained a more permanent standing and higher reputation. Woodstock Academy suffering a serious lapse at that time, its young men came over to the Thompson school, as well as many from other county towns and from Rhode Island. Mr. Green

and his sister were not only stimulating and successful teachers, but they knew how to carry through an attractive "Exhibition," held yearly in the Congregational meeting house on the Green, which added much to the prestige of the school. In 1840 the old tavern house was purchased by Messrs. Joseph B. Gay and William H. Mason, and transformed into an academy building and boarding house, where the school flourished for a number of years. A few years after the demise of Mr. Green's school, viz., in 1851, another high school was opened by Mr. Henry Parker, an experienced teacher, which soon merged into a "Family and High School," carried on by Mr. Parker and the Reverend Alanson Rawson, in the historic "old Watson House." This school enjoyed a high reputation for thoroughness and good scholarship, and many young people of the town availed themselves of its privileges, while a number of lads from other states found a pleasant home and careful training.

During these years great changes had been wrought in the administration of public schools. Finding that the Connecticut school fund, of which the state was so proud, had proved to some extent a disadvantage, that people took little interest in what cost them little or nothing, and that the provision for public education in Connecticut was actually falling below that of other states, a new departure was resolved upon and effected. Through the efficient labors of Henry Barnard, first state school superintendent, measures were instituted which placed educational matters upon a new basis and led to thorough regeneration or reform. Schools have been formed for the instruction of teachers, laws passed compelling children to be placed under their tuition, and boards constituted to see that all these laws are faithfully carried out. School houses, school books and appliances, school methods, wages of teachers and ways of paying them, have been exhaustively scrutinized and debated, and if public schools in Connecticut are not some hundred per cent. in advance of those of former generations, it is not for lack of discussion, legislation or expenditure. Thompson has labored diligently to keep up with the demands of the age, and under the careful oversight of a competent board of visitors, has reconstructed her school houses, provided them with maps, charts, school books and libraries, graded the schools when needful, and supplied them with as good teachers as could be procured. Some of these teachers are graduates from the town schools, as Mr. Newton A. and the

Misses Ballard, Miss Shaw, the Misses Chace, Knight, Bates, Bixby, Mr. George Town and Mr. Wilfred Mills. No one has done more for public education in the town, both as teacher and visitor, than Mr. Stephen Ballard, often secretary and chairman of the board, and so many of the name are associated with our schools that it might well be called the banner family in this respect.

The First church of Thompson, as already narrated, was organized January 18th, 1730, and Marston Cabot ordained and installed over it as its pastor. He was born in Salem in 1704, graduated from Harvard College in 1724, married, July 22d, 1731, Mary, daughter of Reverend Josiah Dwight. He was a man of learning and sound judgment and a preacher of unusual excellence. The covenant adopted by the church under his guidance shows him to have been of unimpeachable orthodoxy, according to the standard of the day, and that the church was in full sympathy with his views, and "ready to rest satisfied with such admittance of adult persons as is performed by the pastor's examination of their knowledge and experience of the principles and practices of religion." It also covenanted "To obey him that is by our present voluntary election, or those that may hereafter be set over us in the Lord, as such that watch over our souls, and whom we shall always account worthy of a gospel support and maintenance; as also to adhere to a pious and able ministry in this church, laboring in a way of joint concurrence with him or them, to his or their conscientious discretion, exerting the ministerial authority committed to them to recover and uphold the vigorous and impartial administration of discipline among us." The so-called "Half-way Covenant" was admitted by the church, under which children of baptized parents, not church members, were made subjects of baptism.

Mr. Cabot exercised the authority entrusted to him with becoming discretion, and while strictly enforcing the laws against intrusive Separates and Baptists, tempered justice with mercy, allowing such to withdraw quietly from the church without attempting coercion. His relations with his own people were ever most cordial and harmonious, and although the currency was so fluctuating that it was sometimes very difficult to ascertain its real value, the "credit of the salary" was faithfully maintained according to contract. In 1751, £500 were found needful; in 1755, £600 were required and £65 allowed for firewood. His

domestic life was shadowed by the loss of several children in the successive epidemics so prevalent at that period. Eight hundred and thirty infants were baptized by Mr. Cabot in his twenty-six years ministry, but a star affixed to many names indicates their early removal. Whether, in addition to "throat ails" and malignant dysentery, lives may not have been shortened by bringing them into the fireless meeting house to be baptized even in the depth of winter, is an open question. One respected brother of the church, Jacob Bixby, lost his wife and eight children within a short period.

The second pastor of Thompson's First church, Reverend Noadiah Russel, was born in Middletown, January 24th, 1730, graduated from Yale college in 1750, studied for the ministry probably with his father, one of the leading ministers in Connecticut, received a call to settle in Pomfret, which, "very much if not altogether" on account of quarrels about building a meeting house, he felt constrained to decline. "June 7, 1757, preached the first Sabbath in Thompson; July 27 the society had a meeting, unanimously invited me to settle among them in the work of the ministry; Aug. 30 gave my answer in the affirmative, considering their unanimity, and consequently the prospect that there is of my being comfortable among them and serviceable to them; Oct. 5 was kept as a fast previous to the ordination; Nov. 9 was the day of my ordination; Rev. Mr. Putnam of Pomfret made the first prayer; Rev. Mr. Gleason (Dudley) made the prayer before the charge; my brother of Windsor made the prayer after the charge; my father gave the charge; the Rev. Mr. Gleason gave the right hand of fellowship." That very important part of the exercises—the sermon—omitted from the church record, was undoubtedly delivered by the father of the new minister, Reverend Noadiah Russel. Jacob Dresser, Simon Larned and Lusher Gay were then serving the church in the office of deacon.

Mr. Russel received from the society £165 settlement and £65 salary, with sufficiency of cord wood for his own use till he came "into family estate," and then thirty cords a year. "Family estate" was soon established by his marriage with Miss Esther Talcott of Middletown, and the purchase of the "Corbin House," on the brow of the hill, on the site now occupied by Mr. Chandler. His pastorate was eminently serene and peaceful, the well known "molasses story" illustrating

the regard in which he was held by his people. Attempting to remonstrate against the large proportion of molasses with which a worthy dame persisted in sweetening his tea, his hostess only answered with another brimming spoonful and the emphatic assertion, "*clear molasses ain't too good for Mr. Russel,*" a saying everywhere accepted as expressing the popular sentiment that nothing could be too good for so good a minister. As a preacher he was sound and solid, but perhaps a trifle heavy and hardly considered equal to his predecessor. He was much beloved by his ministerial brethren, and his counsel and judgment held in high esteem. Doctor Whitney reports: "His mental powers were excellent. He thought and reasoned well, was careful and critical in examining things, capable of forming a good judgment, agreeable and edifying in conversation. His house and heart were open to friends and acquaintances, a lover of mankind, faithful in his friendships, ready to do good and to communicate, exemplary in relative duties." The young Woodstock schoolmaster, Mr. Timothy Williams, in his contemporary diary, gives us the opportunity of attending service in the old meeting house and learning something of his preaching, viz.:

"Jan. 7, 1787, Weather very cold, walked to meeting and heard Mr. Russel preach very well, A. M. from John iv. 24, God a pure spirit; spent the intermission at Mr. Russel's; sat in Esq. Larned's pew P. M. with Major Simon Larned, and heard a fine, close New Year's sermon from Psalm xc. 9, 'Our years pass away as a tale that is told.' Mr. Russel observed seventeen persons had died last year, although it was remarkably healthy; exhorted us to inquire whether we were better prepared for death than when the last year began. If not we were vastly more unprepared, &c., much to the purpose. Jan. 14. Rode in slay to meeting house; heard Mr. Russel from Matt. xxv. 14, 15, on improvement of talents. If the unprofitable servant was so severely punished merely for neglecting his single talent, what would be the condemnation of those who waste, squander and misimprove their many talents. Dined at Rev. Mr. Russel's with Major Simon Larned, and sat with him and lady in Mr. Russel's pew, P. M." Between the two Sundays the young schoolmaster spent one evening by invitation at the minister's with agreeable young company, "took tea and played at Alphabetical Induction, huzzling the bag and shifting two corks."

Mr. Russel was a man of great punctuality, conservative in his views, "very strict in his attention to the order of society." His temperament inclined him to great moderation, and during the revolution his sympathies were with the mother country, and his accustomed prayer for "King George and all the members of the Royal Family," was made a part of the Sabbath service as long as it was in any way suitable. Yet by his great prudence he maintained this difficult position without giving offense. His prudence was also manifested during the Dodge episode, when that audacious young reprobate offered to preach in his pulpit. The Woodstock minister, by declining such overture, brought upon himself a troublesome lawsuit, heavy costs, and a scathing castigation from Judge Swift. "How different," says the judge, "the conduct of Reverend Mr. Russel," who himself attended the service and assisted in the public worship, thereby endearing himself to his parishioners and all good men, and instead of producing mischievous consequences was productive of peace and harmony. Thus quietly amid troublous times the years glided away and Mr. Russel was considering the necessity of employing a colleague, when, like his predecessor, he was suddenly removed. A newspaper reports—"Died at Mendon, Mass., Tuesday, October 17, 1795, Rev. Noadiah Russel, of Thompson, Conn. On the Thursday preceding, Mr. Russel, his wife and son entered upon a journey from their house to Boston, proceeded leisurely, arrived at the Rev. Mr. Alexander's on the following Monday. Towards evening sat down at table for refreshment. Then Mr. Russel was suddenly seized with apoplexy, and continued with little or no sense or motion till about eleven the next evening, when he expired. The remains were brought back to Thompson for interment on Friday, on which very mournful occasion a sermon was delivered by Rev. Josiah Whitney, of Brooklyn, from Heb. vii. 23."

The number of children baptized during Mr. Russel's ministry was 926. Additions to the church had been less frequent during this period, "a great spiritual dearth" prevailing during the revolutionary war and through the remainder of the century. Five hundred and five members had been admitted into the church between 1730 and 1795. Deacons Thomas Dike and Joseph Gay had entered upon service.

After a brief interval Mr. Daniel Dow, of Ashford, received a call to the vacant pastorate. After graduation from Yale Col-

lege in 1793, he had pursued theological studies under Reverends Doctor Goodrich, of Durham, and Enoch Pond, of Ashford, supporting himself meanwhile by teaching psalmody, and was licensed to preach, by the Windham County Association, May, 1795. He had but just passed his twenty-third birthday, and was very small of stature, so that when he first appeared in Thompson as a candidate he was taken for a boy who had come for the doctor, and quite amazed the family when he made known that he purposed to supply the pulpit. His ability and promise were quickly recognized, and he received a satisfactory call, although his orthodoxy was not quite up to the requisite standard, he having "fallen into some mistakes and inconsistencies, in consequence of having read many erroneous books." It was a time of great doctrinal ferment. High Calvinism was in vogue, and the ministers composing the majority of the Windham Association were keenly alert to any taint of unsoundness. The examination of the candidate was held in Esquire Dresser's tavern. A little girl peering into the room carried through life a vivid picture of the youthful divine standing in the center of the room, with his coat thrown off, and sweat raining down his face, like a farmer's in a July hay-field, parrying the thrusts of his ministerial inquisitors. Whatever his sentiments, he held his own triumphantly, and was successfully ordained and installed, April 20th, 1796—"a day of much rejoicing and mutual congratulation. The people loved their young minister and he loved the people." "To be further qualified for the office of a bishop," he had previously become "the husband of one wife," the daughter of Deacon Jesse Bolles, of Woodstock.

Fifty years later Doctor Dow thus detailed his early experiences, and the aspect of the times: "The church I found to be in a very cold, back-slidden state; very few of them willing to converse upon experimental religion, or ready to give a reason of the hope that was in them, if they had any religion at all. The congregation seemingly intent upon nothing but vanity and folly. My flock scattered over the whole town, an area of about eight miles square. Various denominations of Christian people contending with each other about the shells and husks of religion, while they appeared to pay little or no attention to the substance. Intemperance greatly prevailing, and moderate drinkers, as they were called, drinking most immoderately. Errorists of every kind running to and fro, and many having itching ears running

after them. Some openly avowing their infidelity; while others were proclaiming good news and glad tidings; by which they meant that impenitent sinners, drunkards and all were sure to go to Heaven. . . . My people were all very friendly to me. They filled the old meeting house well, heard what I said to them with as much satisfaction as they would listen to a song, but there was the end of it. Nor was it in my power to awaken them. I preached what I thought good sermons, great sermons, sermons full of excellent speech and moral suasion, sermons good enough to convert anybody, and yet they had no more effect in awakening and converting sinners than a pop-gun discharged against an impenetrable rock. . . . But in all this the Lord taught me an important lesson. I was brought to see that nothing short of the power of God can either awaken or convert a sinner. From that time I preached the doctrine of grace more plainly. I expurgated my system of divinity of all Arminian notions, and my language of such phrases as were capable of misconstruction . . . and determined to preach all the doctrines of grace if I possibly could, as plainly as Christ and his Apostles preached them. Soon I began to perceive a very different effect. The Lord did what the preacher could not do . . . and from that time to this we have had repeated occasion to say: 'What hath God wrought?' "*

Material prosperity kept pace with spiritual. The ancient house of worship was once more renovated and crowned with steeple and bell by private enterprise. A great crowd of people assembled to witness the hanging of this most welcome bell, June 2d, 1798. A clock was also procured and inserted, and twenty dollars a year allowed for ringing bell and taking care of clock. Two dollars yearly were also paid "to sweep the house once in two months and clear off the cobwebs." The society committee was directed "to procure and hang" a conductor to said steeple. Mr. Dow was always much interested in church psalmody and a singing school was now opened and four new choristers appointed. Although so prosperous in the main, money was still so scarce that it was found difficult to raise the three hundred dollar salary promised the minister and measures were set on foot for establishing a fund, the interest thereof to be for the support of the Gospel. This was successfully accomplished in 1809—the sum of $5,000 being raised by many subscribers.

*Semi-centennial preached by Doctor Dow, April 22d, 1846.

In 1815, the meeting house was so damaged by the memorable "September Gale" that its renovation was deemed impracticable. Thaddeus and George Larned, Elijah Crosby, Zadoc Hutchins, Isaac Davis, John Nichols, Noadiah Russel, David Town, Daniel Dwight, John Brown, Roger and Joseph Elliott, and James Bates, were appointed a committee for building a new meeting house. A Building Association was formed, subscribers agreeing to build a house, not expending over $6,000. A native architect, afterward very celebrated, Mr. Ithiel Town, furnished the plan; Elias Carter served as master builder; Harvey Dresser, of Charlton, executed the handsome painting under the lofty pulpit, so artfully simulating a stairway partly veiled with crimson drapery that children were always wondering that Mr. Dow did not make use of it. The dedication of the new house, September 4th, 1817, was one of Thompson's especial gala days—the singing under the direction of a veteran leader, Mr. Charles Sharpe, surpassing anything before attempted. The choir met at the gate of the parsonage and marched in procession in pairs, led by the chorister and first soprano, to the meeting house, singing all the way, but so timing march and song that as they crossed the threshold, "Enter his gates with songs of joy" was on their lips. They also sang "Old Hundred," "Marlborough," and lastly, "Denmark," with astonishing force —"the ro-ho-ho-ho-ling years" being so drawn out and intensified as "not only to astonish the waking multitude but would have aroused the Seven Sleepers." The new meeting house, with its heavy galleries and elaborate pulpit, was greatly admired, although wholly destitute of any accommodations for Sabbath school or conference meetings. Mr. Dow was at this date one of the most popular and eloquent ministers of the county. The singing of the choir was exceptionally fine, and the impressive figures of the venerable deacons, Aaron and Moses Bixby, seated beneath the pulpit, added to the effect of the whole service. Children supposed that their names were *ex officio*, and that all deacons were called Moses and Aaron.

After some years of unsuccessful experiment, a Sabbath school was established in 1825, Deacon Josiah Thayer superintendent. Deacon Thayer, with Deacons Charles Brown and Daniel Alton, were in service many years. The pastorate of Mr. Dow, prolonged for more than fifty years, was marked by many striking events and changes, but the early love and admiration of his

people remained unchanged. A man of deep convictions, great ability and many striking qualities, he impressed himself very deeply upon the minds of two generations. A keen controversialist, perfectly sure that he was in the right, his early relations with other denominations were not harmonious. When invited to speak upon the platform at the first Methodist camp meeting, he repaid the courtesy by denouncing, in most straightforward terms, their whole method of procedure. Young people, timidly questioning the validity of their baptismal sprinkling in infancy, were treated to a sermon upon vain jangling and the keen query, "Have not some of you been *jangling* about your *baptism?*"

The pertinency of his texts was very remarkable, and his peculiar and emphatic mode of announcement and reiteration gave them more power. He used no notes; discourse and illustration were wholly based upon scripture, which he had at tongue's end from Genesis to Revelation. Wrongdoers in his own congregation found little mercy. When, after keen, incisive glance, he announced for text—"How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity?"—those who had attended dance or merry-making during the week knew very well what was coming. Meeting one Monday a young lawyer of his congregation, he remarked that he had missed him from his place in church the preceding afternoon. "Yes," said the young man, "I was invited to attend the dedication of an Universalist hall up north; had a great time there—a band of music from Southbridge, a Universalist minister offered prayer, and *I* preached the sermon." "No doubt the Devil was very much pleased with the whole performance," was the instant reply.

Softening with advancing years, Mr. Dow relaxed from earlier denominational exclusiveness, and enjoyed much pleasant fraternal intercourse with Baptist and Methodist ministers. His long experience and intimate acquaintance with family histories made him exceedingly effective and impressive upon funeral occasions, which he regarded as special means of grace. He delighted to preach upon the fulfillment of prophesy and the restoration of the Jews, but opposed the Millerite delusion so effectually in a series of sermons that not one of his congregation embraced this belief. In 1840 a doctor's degree was conferred upon him by Williams College. In April, 1836, he preached an appropriate discourse upon the words, "Forty

years I have led you in the wilderness." Ten years later people gathered from far and near to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of his settlement and listen to most beautiful and touching reminiscences from the ever-beloved pastor. Original hymns by his son, J. E. Dow, of Washington, and Mrs. Anna S. Larned, added to the interest of the occasion. Doctor Dow continued to preach with unabated animation and power for more than three years, till suddenly stricken down from heart failure, on the eve of July 19th, 1849, after his return from officiating at a funeral. An immense congregation attended his funeral the following Sabbath. The sermon was preached by his ministerial brother and friend, Reverend Roswell Whitmore, of Killingly. His aged widow survived till 1853. The first three pastorates of the Congregational church had thus covered a period of one hundred and nineteen years.

Deprived so suddenly of their lifetime leader, the church, like sheep without a shepherd, did not know which way to turn, but a chance word left by Doctor Dow led to the immediate choice of his successor, the first and only candidate, Reverend Andrew Dunning, of Brunswick, Maine; born July 11th, 1815; graduate of Bowdoin; ordained at Plainfield, Conn., May 24th, 1842; dismissed January 26th, 1847; installed over the Congregational church of Thompson May 15th, 1850; died in charge, like his predecessors, March 26th, 1872, an honored member of a remarkable ministerial succession. Lovely in person and character, eminently prudent, peace-loving, sound in judgment, able in discourse, the pastoral work of Mr. Dunning fully justified the spontaneous choice of his people. Although the withdrawal of population to the valleys was now telling heavily upon the hill churches, and many valued members were thus removed from Thompson, the church maintained a good record throughout Mr. Dunning's ministry. In 1856 it took possession of a new and elegant house of worship, opposite the former house, Mr. William H. Mason bearing a large share of the cost of construction. Dedication services were observed with the usual enthusiasm, Mr. Dunning presiding with grace and dignity, and preaching an appropriate and impressive sermon. A suitable organ was soon after placed in the church, through the instrumentality of the ladies of the congregation.

Smitten with fatal disease while yet in the prime of manhood, and not attaining "unto the days of the years of the life" of his

fathers in the ministry, Mr. Dunning was permitted in a very special manner "to glorify God" in the heroic fortitude with which he bore his sufferings, and in his dying testimony to the faith which had supported him. His long illness "was a perfect triumph of grace." His funeral sermon was preached by one of his own spiritual children, Reverend Joseph P. Bixby. The inscription on the tablet in the Congregational church edifice delineates most truthfully the characteristics of this beloved minister: "Servant of the Lord . . . . gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient . . . . thoroughly furnished unto all good work."

Four pastors in one hundred and forty-two years was Thompson's excellent record in 1872. *Five* since that date show its ability to keep up with the times. Reverend Joseph Bodwell was installed as pastor December 16th, 1872; dismissed in the autumn of 1874. Reverend John A. Hanna was installed July, 1876; dismissed October, 1879. Reverend Aaron C. Adams served as acting pastor from December, 1879, to May, 1887. Reverend Marcus Ames entered upon service as acting pastor December 1st, 1887, but in three months was stricken down with illness and died during the year. Reverend George H. Cummings was ordained and installed May 24th, 1888. In these later pastorates the church has faithfully maintained its original pledge "to adhere to a pious and able ministry," each minister having his special excellences and devoted adherents. Since the resignation of Deacon Charles Brown, who served more than forty years, the office has been filled by Deacons Elijah Crosby, Charles Brown, Marcus F. Town, Josiah W. Dike—all descended from early members of the church. The present chorister, Mr. Andrew Mills, has been a member of the choir more than half a century. Messrs. James O. Mills, Charles Baldwin, B. F. Hutchins and Jerome F. Crosby have also served as choristers. It is a remarkable fact, illustrating the lamented dying out and emigration of native New England families, that of the twenty-eight original members of the First Thompson church, only *one*, Henry Green, is represented by name on the present roll of membership. Two or three are still represented in the female line. Descendants of Samuel Converse, Israel Joslin and Ivory Upham are now numerous in different parts of the town.

The first Baptist church in Windham county was formed in Thompson parish in 1750. Jeremiah Barstow, of Sturbridge, appears as the first Baptist exhorter, suffering a month's impris-

onment in Windham jail for presuming to preach without permission from constituted authority. "Gone to ye Baptists" is the mournful record of good Mr. Cabot against the names of those who yielded to his enticements. Refusing to pay rates for the standing society, they were "strained upon" by collectors, and suffered various trials, until embodied as a "Six Principle Baptist Church," with Elder Wightman Jacobs for their pastor, and united in association with other churches in the vicinity. Its existence was, however, short and troubled, and it became extinct upon the removal of its pastor and leading members to Royalston, Vermont, in 1769. Finding themselves exposed anew to taxation for support of the standing order, and being fully in harmony with Baptist sentiments, a Baptist society was formed November 17th, 1772, some seventy-five subscribers expressing their regard for the Baptist constitution and way of worship, their willingness to be helpful in building a house for public worship and in settling a minister, according to their ability, "not believing that there ought to be any compulsion in such cases, or carnal sword used." Mr. John Martin, of Rehoboth, was chosen to preach to them on trial, who preached through the winter in private houses in the vicinity of the present Brandy hill.

After pleasant meetings in June to tell of their experience of God's grace in their souls, James Dike was appointed to write a petition, and Ebenezer Green to carry it to the mother church in Leicester, Mass., asking leave to embody as a distinct church. September 9th, 1773, these petitioners, viz., Widow Deborah Torrey, Mary Green, Elizabeth Atwell, Sarah White, Widow Deborah Davis, Lydia Hall, Hannah Jones, James Dike, Ebenezer Green, Jonathan Munyan, Levi White, Thaddeus Allen, John White, together with John Martin, John Atwell, John Pratt, James Coats and Levisa Martin "firstly gave ourselves to the Lord and to each other and signed a written covenant," and thus became embodied. On the same day Mr. Martin was called to become the minister of the church, the society concurring without "one vote to the contrary." James Dike and Ebenezer Green were elected deacons. Ordination services were held November 3d, 1773, under a large apple tree near the Jacobs Tavern. Elder Ledoyt of Woodstock began the public service with prayer. A sermon suitable to the occasion was preached from Phil. i. 18, by Elder Isaac Backus, Elder Green of Charlton gave

the charge, Elder Winsor of Gloucester the right hand of fellowship—all conducted with decency and order. The deacons were formally ordained, December 9th, the church having previously decided that each had a gift of prayer and exhortation that ought to be improved for the benefit of the church, but that it ought to be "limited, viz., he ought not to rise up of his own head and open the meeting by prayer," but wait the suggestion of the elder; likewise the gift of exhortation should not be indulged in unless "he could see any point that he could advance any further upon in agreement to what had been said," and "if the church in general should judge that he did not advance anything forward, or give some further light," he should be gently reproved, but the *third time* he attempted and advanced nothing forward, he should be silenced. It is not surprising that upon reconsideration the church "disannulled that vote concerning Dea. Dike's and Dea. Green's gifts, and ordered that vote to be crossed out, but willing they or any other brother should improve according to the ability that God shall give at proper times and seasons as the church shall judge." A meeting house was built the following summer on land given by Benjamin Wilkinson, the large hearted proprietor of the old Red Tavern on Thompson hill, "in the fork of the roads where Oxford and Boston roads meet," Ezekiel Smith, Ebenezer Starr and Jonathan Munyan, building committee. "A vote was called whether we would allow this Baptist church the *decisive vote* in choosing her gifts to improve in the meeting house we are now about to build, and it was voted in the affirmative;" by which action the control of the house was given to the church. Many were added to its membership, and public worship was largely attended. In 1792 Pearson Crosby and Jonathan Converse were chosen deacons.

In 1796 Brother Solomon Wakefield had liberty "to improve his gifts and hold meetings, when the door may open at any time or place, when he is free to do the same," and the clerk gave them "credentials to go forth to preach." Some serious difficulties had then arisen in the church, due mainly to dissatisfaction with the pastor, whose mind was somewhat unsettled with advancing years. A part took sides with the minister. September 7th, 1797, a council was held, which resulted in division of the church, "each individual, male and female, to have full liberty to join which party they choose." Twenty-seven members thereupon withdrew and set up worship for themselves in an obscure cor-

ner, known as Oxford Gore, with Elder Martin for their minister, The majority remaining soon after united in choice of Pearson Crosby. Resigning himself wholly to the judgment of the brethren, a council was held November 7th, 1798, which unanimously voted, "Satisfied with the work of grace on his heart, his call to the ministry and system of doctrine." On the day following he was ordained and inducted into the ministry, "all of which was attended to with a degree of becoming solemnity." The faithful labors of the new minister were crowned with abundant success, and in a few years the membership of the church had largely increased. Thomas Day was added to the number of deacons.

Though so prosperous in the main it was found difficult to provide a support for the minister. After laboring more than two years, it was voted to pay Elder Crosby forty dollars for his past services. A legacy from Deacon Ebenezer Green, and liberal subscriptions from others, enabled the society in 1801 to purchase a farm "to provide a place of residence for our teacher or minister near our meeting house," which, with an annual salary of eighty dollars enabled him to provide comfortably for the wants of his large family. In 1803, a new meeting house was erected—Elder Crosby, Deacons Jonathan Converse and Thomas Day, Captain David Wilson, Joseph Dike, Abel Jacobs, building committee. A suitable site was purchased "on the great turnpike road from Boston to Hartford." May 19th, more than a hundred men assisted at the raising, "having dinner, supper and liquor enough provided," and the work of building was pushed forward so efficiently that in August the Sturbridge Association of Baptist churches was held in the new house. Pews sold to ready purchasers helped defray the cost. The church continued to gain in numbers and its new meeting house was well filled with attentive hearers. It was very interesting on a Sabbath morning to see the people flocking thither by the old by-ways and "across lots" from all sections. Elder Crosby was a strong and eloquent preacher, particularly gifted on funeral occasions.

In 1805, a standing committee was instituted, consisting of the pastor, deacons and five brethren, to settle all matters of difficulty between members without the knowledge or action of the church, called out probably by the great number of trifling complaints lodged against church members in those days,

but hardly consistent with the democratic character of Baptist principles and usages. In other respects the church showed itself remarkably conservative, particularly in "A Rule for the Management of its Temporal concerns" adopted in 1818, which provided "that all delegated power in things of a temporal concern shall be vested in the deacons except in such things as the church shall think proper to add other brethren." The minister's salary was to be raised by an "everedge" upon each member, the deacons "to make out the Everage Bill," lay it before the church for ratification, receive payment, warn and report delinquents, and if any should neglect to pay within a month of the time specified, church fellowship would be withheld till satisfaction was given—a method differing but little from the rate bill and "carnal sword," so repugnant to Baptists. So also with reference to women using their gifts of speaking in public, the church was severely censured for permitting a very able and fervent female preacher to occupy the pulpit in the absence of their pastor.

But in spiritual power the "Old Baptist church" exceeded. Between 1812 and 1815, a remarkable "revival" was experienced, bringing hundreds into the churches. The work was particularly sweeping in the newly-formed "Factory Villages" of the valley, "where for two or three years Satan had seemed to reign with almost sovereign and despotic sway. Vice and immorality were permitted to riot without control. The sound of the violin, attended with dancing, the sure prelude to greater scenes of revelry for the night." Here Elder Crosby reports—"Convictions of the most pungent and powerful character. Some wrought upon in the most sudden manner—one moment swearing, cursing and ridiculing religion; the next, calling upon God to save their souls. In less than a week instead of the violin, the songs of Zion and preaching and conference every evening." Eighteen baptismal seasons, all characterized by the greatest solemnity, were observed by Elder Crosby during this powerful revival. On a bitter cold day, January, 1813, he enjoyed "the glorious sight" of beholding thirteen young people in the very bloom of life following their dear Lord into the cold stream of Jordan, people traveling through the snow and cold eighteen miles to witness this impressive scene. Young people who went about town in ox sleds that tempestuous winter breaking out roads that they might attend these precious meetings, never forgot the

joyful enthusiasm of the time. Many were brought in who became most valuable members of the churches and preachers of the truth. Benjamin M. Hill, afterward secretary of the American Baptist Home Mission Society, was licensed by this church in 1815; Lewis Seamans a few years later. John B. Ballard, one of the subjects of this revival, was afterward very active in ministerial and mission work. Stephen Crosby was ordained deacon in 1815. Three hundred and fifty-four were added to the church in the twenty years of Elder Crosby's ministry. In 1819 he followed his children to Fredonia, N. Y.

His immediate successor was Elder John Nichols, of West Thompson, received into the fellowship of the Baptist church and installed as its pastor May 19th, 1819, an eloquent and powerful preacher. Arthur A. Ross, a licentiate of the church, was associated with him, and served as sole pastor for a short period. In 1823 Elder James Grow, an experienced minister, already well known to the church, became its pastor. A man of deep spiritual experience and fervent piety, his labors were greatly blessed, one hundred and forty-five being added to the church during his ten years' ministry. Reverend Bela Hicks was called as his successor in 1834. At about this date the growing prosperity of Thompson Hill village and the number of influential Baptists living there led to a separation in the church, a number of its members, with their pastor, Elder Hicks, removing their worship to a new meeting house built by them in the village.

Elder Grow resumed charge of the branch in the former meeting house and served acceptably till laid aside by increasing infirmities. Till his death in 1859, he held a warm place in the hearts of many, and his trembling voice was often raised in prayer and affectionate exhortation. Four hundred and seventy-six were baptized by him. With a small salary he gave with a willing mind, and sent Doctor Judson in the early days of foreign missions fifty dollars with his own hand, which Doctor Judson answered in a letter, which brought more than twenty thousand dollars to the Burman mission. Elder James Smither, an earnest preacher, succeeded Elder Grow for two years, and was followed by Elder Nicholas Branch, a man of strong character and a vigorous and original preacher. An attempt was now made to unite in worship with the church at the Center, Elder Branch taking for his text the Sunday before leaving the old meeting house, "Ye have compassed this mountain long enough."

But the words were not prophetic. Older people could not feel at home under new conditions, and returned in a few months to their old church home, and having still their ministerial farm, proceeded to build a new house of worship and make arrangements for permanent abiding. After careful thought and mutual conference, an harmonious separation was effected April 8th, 1846, each brother and sister present of the two churches signifying their assent to the subjoined resolutions: "Resolved, that the Baptist church in Thompson be, and the same hereby is divided, and hereafter constitutes two distinct bodies, the one body to be known as the East Thompson Baptist church, and the other as the Central Baptist church of Thompson. Be it further resolved, that each individual present answer for himself or herself as to which body they wish to be connected with; also, so far as they feel authorized to, answer for their friends."

The Eastern church, with its new meeting house and ample field of labor, has since enjoyed a comfortable existence under the guidance of successive faithful ministers, viz.: Elders I. C. Carpenter, L. W. Wheeler, J. B. Guild, Nicholas Branch, P. Matthewson, D. S. Hawley, W. A. Worthington, N. J. Pinkham. The one hundredth anniversary of the church was celebrated very delightfully by both churches, at the East Thompson meeting house, September 9th, 1873, when a very interesting history of the church was given by its pastor, Reverend N. J. Pinkham. Addresses were made by former pastors, Elders Carpenter and Matthewson, and by children of the church, residents in other towns; also by Mr. James Hill, the oldest member of the church; Captain John Green, a former member, and by ministers from other towns. A beautiful September day, a large and sympathetic audience, the number and variety of addresses, made it a day of rare interest and enjoyment. The present pastor, Reverend Samuel Thatcher, who has now labored some six years with the East Thompson church, has the happy gift of imparting his abounding energy to others, and the church enters upon its second century with cheering prospect of continued usefulness.

At the time of the migration to Thompson hill the Baptists in that vicinity boasted some very strong and influential men, such as Deacon Stephen Crosby and his son, Judge Talcott Crosby, Captain Vernon Stiles, Mr. Richmond Bullock. Under their oversight a comfortable house of worship was erected and opened for service in 1836. Elder Harvey Fittz succeeded Elder Hicks

the following year. The congregation was large and influential, many sterling families from different parts of the town favoring removal to the village. A powerful revival soon followed, strengthening the membership of the church. During the succeeding pastorate of Reverend Silas Bailey, a distinguished and able minister, afterward president of Granville College and other institutions, the church continued to flourish and received large accessions. Jason Elliott and George Davis were ordained deacons in 1840.

Great interest was felt at this date in temperance reform, and many very interesting meetings were held in the Baptist church—the commanding presence and sound judgment of Elder Bailey giving him much influence in this and other public movements. Union temperance meetings were held throughout one winter in the vestry of the church, greatly enlightening public sentiment. The loss of Elder Bailey, when called to wider fields, was much lamented by all. His successor, Elder L. G. Leonard, a man of culture and ability, was less successful. Elder Charles Willett was called to the pastorate June 4th, 1845, and continued some years in charge, assisting very effectively in the harmonious settlement of the two branches in 1846. A council of recognition was held May 20th, at which time Elliott Joslin and Valentine Ballard were set apart as deacons, an office which they worthily filled many years. Emigration was now depleting the church; some influential families removed west, others became connected with the Baptist church of the present Putnam. Each pastor found the number of members decreasing. Elders Thomas Dowling, E. R. Warren and Moses Curtis succeeded Mr. Willett. During the pastorate of Reverend B. S. Morse, 1858-1861, the meeting house was thoroughly repaired. Mr. Morse did good service in compiling a history of the Baptist churches, delivered before his people, and published in the minutes of the Ashford Baptist Association. Elder E. P. Borden supplied the pulpit for two years. Elders W. Munger, B. N. Sperry, Robert Bennett, William Randall are later pastors. For several years Baptists in Grosvenor Dale associated with this church, Messrs. Sperry, Bennett and Randall holding an afternoon service in the chapel of that village, and having pastoral charge of those attending the service; but from the removal of Mr. Briggs and other causes it was discontinued. The present pastor, Reverend S. A. Ives, entered upon service in April, 1888. Deacons Valen-

tine Ballard and Hiram Arnold serve as senior deacons. Charles Arnold and John D. Converse have been recently installed in service. The church edifice has been thoroughly repaired and refitted, absent ones of the church assisting in this work.

Methodists appeared in Thompson at an early date, zealous itinerants preaching in various localities, wherever they could find a hearing. Avoiding the hilltops so long pre-empted by the "Standing Order," they found a willing constituency in the neglected valleys, where population had slowly gathered about the mill sites. The first Methodist preachers remembered are John Allen and Jesse Lee, who gained a few followers. In 1793 a class of six members was formed in West Thompson, with Noah Perrin of Pomfret, for a leader. Joseph Buck, Shubael Cady and Jonathan Allen were prominent among these early Methodists. The Nichols family was a notable accession to their ranks. Captain Jonathan Nichols, the bridge builder and ship architect, became a Methodist, opening his house for the reception of the New England Conference in 1796. This was the sixth Methodist conference of New England, the only one ever held in Windham county. Bishop Asbury, Joshua Hall and many distinguished Methodist preachers were present, and the services were marked by the most thrilling interest. Soon a Methodist house of worship was built west of the Quinebaug, under the direction of Captain Nichols, and religious services statedly observed. John Gore, Dyer Branch, Joshua Crowell, Elisha Streeter, Thomas Perry, were early preachers in this house, drawing many hearers from the west part of the town and adjoining sections of Pomfret and Woodstock. In time the rough house became too small for the congregation and was bisected and enlarged.

In the revival season of 1812-1815, many were added to the church, and an earnest brother, Shubael Cady, gathered the children into a class for instruction—one of the first reported Sunday schools in the country.

The Thompson church became so powerful that its name was given to the circuit. It continued to increase and flourish under the care of zealous leaders and elders till, in 1840, a handsome church edifice was erected in West Thompson village. Judge Jonathan Nichols and his kinsmen, Messrs. Faxon and George Nichols, were very active and efficient in forwarding the Methodist interests throughout the town. So also was Reverend Hez-

ekiah Ramsdell, who made his home in West Thompson while preaching in various fields with much eloquence and acceptance.

Thompson and Eastford were now united in a circuit embracing a membership of seven hundred. So large was the field that a division was thought needful, and new societies formed in Fisherville and East Thompson. Soon after this division the mother society was further weakened by the establishment of worship in what is now Putnam, by which many valuable members were removed. The West Thompson Methodist church has, in spite of these losses, maintained a good standing, furnishing an acceptable church home for many substantial families, and also for aged ministers and their families. The venerable Fathers Warren Emerson and John Case spent their last years with this people. Among its many faithful ministers may be numbered: Elders George May, William and Richard Livesly, Edward A. Stanley, Charles Morse, Phelps and Stearns.

A Methodist house of worship was erected in Fisherville in 1842, and a good congregation gathered. One of its first ministers was the honored Father Daniel Dorchester, whose son, Daniel, now so widely known in the denomination, preached at the same time in East Thompson. This society was greatly benefitted through the thoughtfulness of Mr. Joseph Green, by which the debt upon the meeting house was cleared and money left for a permanent fund. Captain George Nichols was one of the early benefactors and constant friends of this society. Situated in a thriving village, with a country around it unoccupied by other churches, this Methodist church has filled an important position and been productive of much good. Its well kept burying ground and continued improvements in the house of worship manifest much enlightened public spirit. The present pastor, Reverend George A. Morse, is completing his third year of service.

The East Thompson Methodist society, organized in a part of the town previously left out in the cold, had a hard struggle for existence in its early years. But the very difficulties in the way made its preservatien more important. With the opening of the New York and New England railroad, and its junction at East Thompson with the Southbridge Branch, population increased and the church felt a new impetus. For many years it has been a strong and active body, and enjoyed a succession of faithful and efficient pastors. Its Sabbath school has been kept up with

much interest, its prayer meetings are lively and well attended, and the church and children's festivals are observed with unusual spirit.

Miss Emma Shaw, a native of Thompson village, much esteemed as a teacher in the public schools of Providence, R. I., has won unique celebrity by her energy and enterprise in exploring unfamiliar portions of the American continent. She was one of the first American women to explore our Alaskan territory, and in successive visits has made herself very familiar with the topography and characteristics of that remarkable region. For six successive summers Miss Shaw has crossed to the Pacific coast, over the several trans-continental routes, making each year a special visitation and study of some almost undiscovered country, and describing her adventurous wanderings in graphic letters to many influential newspapers. Yellowstone Park, the Cascades of the Columbian river, the Winnipeg country, the Saskatchewan river far into the territory of the Hudson Bay Company, and other remote and unfrequented sections, have been thus visited and described. Miss Shaw has in a very marked degree the qualities essential for a successful traveler, and the interesting papers recounting her varied and unusual experiences have been greatly enjoyed and appreciated by many intelligent audiences.

CHAPTER XXIX.

THE TOWN OF THOMPSON.—(Concluded).

Manufactures.—The Swamp Factory.—Fisherville Factory.—Water Privileges.—Grosvenor Dale, Masonville.—North Grosvenor Dale.—Changes Wrought by the Manufacturing Interests.—Catholic Churches.—The Swedish Church of Grosvenor Dale.—Connecticut Manufacturing Company.—The "Brick" Factory.—West Thompson.—Mechanicsville.—Quadic Manufacturing Company.—Brandy Hill.—The Northeast Section.—Wilsonville.—New Boston.—Thompson Village.—A "Boom" to Thompson Hill.—Old-Time Taverns.—Social Customs.—Railroad Opening.—Thompson Bank.—Fire Engine Company.—Some Prominent People.—Summer Inhabitants.—The Sons of Thompson.—Thompson Grange.—Biographical Sketches.

THOMPSON'S manufacturing interests are of much value and importance, having been the main factor in its continued prosperity and good standing. The opening of Mr. Smith Wilkinson's cotton spinning factory in 1807, near the southwest corner of Thompson, excited much interest, giving employment to many women and children, and furnishing a nearer market for farm produce. Mr. John Mason, at the extreme south of the town (oldest son of the former merchant, who had then removed to Providence), was the first to propose a similar enterprise in Thompson, and selected the site of the present Grosvenor Dale as the scene of experiment. Persuading Nathaniel, son of Elder Crosby, to associate with him, they attempted to negotiate for the upper privilege with Deacon Stephen Crosby, who had at that time a saw mill, grist mill and fulling mill in successful operation. Failing in this attempt, they invited Messrs. John Nichols, James B. Mason, Theodore Dwight and Rufus Coburn to unite with them as the Thompson Manufacturing Company in 1811, and succeeded in purchasing a suitable tract of land "near the old bridge place, below Stephen Crosby's mills." Here were erected, in 1812, Thompson's first manufactory or factory building, a wooden house 60 by 36 feet, three stories high, designed to run sixteen hundred spindles. Early in the following year it went into operation, draw-

ing in the class of operators usual at that date, mostly embarassed men with small means and large families. Society in early mill villages was very chaotic, and according to Elder Crosby, "Satan" gained the mastery in this case, "reigning with almost sovereign and despotic sway." An unfortunate rivalry between the Thompson Company and the "Connecticut Company" at the Brick Factory below helped to give a bad name to this Satanic stronghold. Occupying one of the "miry hollows" so vividly depicted by Samuel Morris a century before, it was considered a very unwholesome and undesirable location, and was derisively nicknamed "The Swamp" or "Swamp Factory" by mocking rivals—a name that clung to it for many years. The future Judge Nichols was the first agent of the company; Rufus Coburn sub-agent. Lacking in experience, and probably in the rare executive ability which had given such success to Mr. Wilkinson's experiment, the first aspect was not favorable, but ere many months had passed a complete change of base was effected. "Land, water privilege, buildings, machinery, stock of yarn and cloth," in short, the whole establishment, was bought out by General James B. Mason, for $12,500. August 11th, 1813, his brothers, Amasa and William H. Mason were admitted into the company, General Mason retaining sixteen-thirty-seconds for himself. Colonel William Foster, of Smithfield, R. I., was made the resident agent, a man of experience and resolute energy. Under his efficient agency order took the place of chaos, and when under the great religious interest of 1814 unruly spirits were farther quelled, the character of the place was almost wholly transformed. Many good and substantial families removed to Swamp Factory, thrifty women welcomed the privilege of weaving the spun cotton into cloth, struggling farmers paid off mortgages by working for the factory, and the usual good results of such pecuniary aid were experienced in many directions. The little school house was soon crowded with native children and many religious services were held there by the different ministers of the town. Through the skillful management of Colonel Foster, the depression in manufactured goods, following the return of peace and the introduction of power looms and new methods of working, was tided over without loss to the company.

After the death of General James B. Mason in 1820, his widow, Mrs. Alice Mason, and Mr. William H. Mason, leased their respective shares in the Swamp Factory to Mr. Amasa Mason.

Colonel Foster was succeeded, as manager, by Mr. Thomas Thatcher, a man of much weight of character and sterling integrity, who continued to administer its affairs with much wisdom and efficiency. In 1826 Messrs. Amasa and William H. Mason purchased of Deacon Stephen Crosby the long courted upper mill privilege, together with dwelling house, numerous mills and eighty acres of land for $5,800. March 13th, 1826, Mr. William H. Mason sold Mr. Thatcher one-eighth of his interest, the three proprietors now taking the name of the Masonville Company, and giving the name to the village. The square house built by Deacon Crosby became the residence of Mr. Thatcher. A substantial stone factory building was erected as soon as possible 80 by 40 feet, four stories high, fitted for twenty-five hundred spindles—forming the northern portion of the present western group of mills. A handsome row of stone houses was also built for the operatives, and the population of the village very largely increased.

It was the policy of the Masonville Company to manufacture cloth of the highest grade and best quality. With Sea Island cotton, new machinery and skilled workmen they soon attained their object, and the Masonville sheeting stood at the head of the market. With the tariff of 1828 protecting their interests, the Masonville Company prospered greatly, their profits in five years reaching one hundred thousand dollars. In 1831 a brick building was added, four stories high, running twenty-five hundred spindles. The ensuing ten years were mainly prosperous, though the first wooden factory leased to different parties, met some reverses. Mr. Thatcher remained in charge, and was honored as the patriarch and autocrat of the village. "Who is governor of Connecticut?" queried a passing traveler of the gaping children. "Mr. Fracher," lisped a little maid, unable to conceive of higher dignitary. The residents of the village were as yet almost wholly of New England stock. Many good Yankees found employment in the various offices.

Some idea of the society of Masonville at that date may be gathered from the fact that, on the day of the inauguration of General Harrison to the presidency, March 4th, 1841, the ladies of the Congregational Sewing Society were invited to meet with their Masonville sisters, and that *nine* heads of families furnished the turkey dinner with which they celebrated the event. Other families attended the Baptist and Methodist churches. Farmers'

and mechanics' daughters gladly improved the privilege of earning abundant wages, and were among the best customers of the stores at Thompson hill—the usual "factory store" not satisfying their ambitions. In 1840 Mr. William H. Mason became the sole proprietor of the old Thompson factory, which he proceeded to enlarge and refit with new machinery, making it run twenty-seven hundred spindles. Changes were made in the company proprietorship by which seven shares accrued to Mr. Amasa Mason, the same to Mr. W. H. Mason, one share to Mr. Thatcher, one to Captain William S. Arnold, who, after serving in various departments, now had charge of the store. Mr. Amasa Mason, residing in Providence, served as mercantile agent and general manager of the company from the date of organization in 1813 till failing health compelled its relinquishment. Mr. William H. Mason, the last survivor of the Mason brothers, assumed the charge for a few years, till his increasing infirmities induced him to resign the office to his nephew by marriage, Doctor William Grosvenor of North Providence. His wife, Rosa A. Grosvenor, daughter of General James B. Mason, had inherited part of her father's interest, and also one-fourth part of Mr. Amasa Mason's interest. Doctor Grosvenor was descended from one of the first settlers of Windham county, the John Grosvenor who negotiated for the Mashamoquet purchase, now the central part of Pomfret, and whose descendants were ranked among the leading citizens of successive generations. His father, Doctor Robert Grosvenor, entered upon medical practice in Killingly, and was known far and wide as a skillful practitioner and keen business man, a partner in the Killingly Manufacturing Company of 1814, whose ivy-covered "Stone Factory" is now the most picturesque ruin in Windham county.

His son, William, born April 30th, 1810, inherited his father's professional and business aptitude, and after completing medical studies engaged for a time in practice, but finding business more congenial, in 1848 he accepted the position of mercantile agent and general manager of the Masonville Manufacturing Company. June 30th, 1854, Doctor Grosvenor purchased of Mr. William H. Mason eleven and one-half shares, representing his share of the interest, and soon after purchased the remaining rights held by heirs of General Mason, and still later the share held by Captain William Arnold. One share was sold to Mr. Lucius Briggs, an experienced machinist and manufacturer, who, a few years after

the death of Mr. Thatcher, had been appointed superintendent of both upper and lower factories, and proved a most efficient and valuable manager. Under his administration many improvements were effected, especially in regard to the sanitary condition of the village. In early years its unhealthiness was proverbial, and no autumn passed without the prevalence of fever. Mr. Briggs introduced a thorough system of drainage and compelled strict obedience to sanitary laws, so that in a few years the health report of the malarious "Swamp" compared favorably with that of other manufacturing establishments. The change in the character of the residents made this strictness more imperative. The New England born operatives had been almost wholly replaced by foreigners, mostly Canadian French, who usually returned home after making a little money, had no personal interest in the place, and required a strong hand to keep them in order.

With great executive ability and mechanic ingenuity, Mr. Briggs shared in Mr. Grosvenor's advanced ideas in relation to the capabilities of manufacturing enterprise, believing in the policy of large expenditures to ensure commensurate ultimate returns. Their motto from the beginning was progress and continual improvements. In 1859 they erected a stone factory, connecting the Mason factories of 1826 and 1831, and more than doubling their capacity, increasing it to eleven thousand spindles. At the same time a Jeuvel turbine wheel of one hundred and eighty horse power was substituted for the two breast wheels formerly in use. In 1861 the old original wooden mill at the lower privilege was moved across the road and a very beautiful and complete brick factory building erected at great cost, 160 by 66 feet, with an ell of 80 by 40 feet, five stories high. It was very thoroughly built, fitted up with improved machinery and the best modern arrangements, one of the best mills in the country at the time of its erection, running twenty thousand spindles. Its power was furnished by Jeuvel and Leffel turbine wheels. The former factory was moved across the street and fitted up for tenements. A capacious and tasteful boarding house was also added. After completing these improvements they made provision for further expansion and achievement by buying out Captain Arnold's share in the Masonville Company, and also by the purchase of the whole Fisherville interest.

The factory at Fisherville was built in 1828 on land previously owned by Calvin Randall. So rough and rocky was this region, and so apparently absurd to think of utilizing it to any extent, that wits of the day dubbed the infant settlement Mount Hunger, a fitting counterpart to the neighboring Swamp Factory. John Nichols, Darius Dwight, of Thompson, and William Fisher, of Killingly, formed the first company, but soon admitted Cornelius G. Fenner and Thomas D. Fenner, of Providence, forming what was first styled "The Thompson Village Company," which erected dam, factory building and needful dwelling houses, entering upon manufacturing work early in 1829. The following year Mr. Fisher bought out the other stockholders, becoming sole proprietor of factory and village. The latter now took for itself the name of Fisherville, though some years passed before it outgrew the original nickname. Mr. John Andrews, of Providence, joined with Mr. Fisher for a few years, and it then passed wholly into the hands of William Fisher & Sons.

Mr. Fisher was born in Dedham, Mass., March 15th, 1788; engaged in manufacturing enterprises in Attleborough; removed to Howe's Mills, Killingly, about 1820, and to Thompson in 1828. By his judicious management, in a few years a remarkable transformation was effected. The craggy, rocky woodland had been made to bud and bloom like the rose. Mr. Fisher was much interested in farming, and took great delight in subduing the wild land around him. A class of substantial farmers were brought into the growing village, building homes for themselves in addition to the usual rented houses. The factory of the olden time was well represented by Fisherville—the owner at home among his people, all bound together by common interest and regard; the number of workmen so small that all could be known to each other, and to the families of the proprietors and overseers. Among the operatives were many typical New England women, choosing the independence of factory life, and working on year after year until they had laid up a sum sufficient for future support; others were young girls working to fit themselves for something better, using their wages for schooling or marriage outfit. The factories were a great benefit to many men of small means, who, by the labor of their children and the ready money paid themselves, were able to lift a cumbering mortgage or buy a small farm for old age. Great pains were taken at Fisherville to procure help of good character and standing.

Mr. Fisher was one of the pioneer temperance workers in Connecticut, and before leaving Killingly had drawn up and circulated the first pledge taken in that town. A thriving temperance society was now established in Fisherville, and great efforts were made to bring in every person employed by the company, Mr. Fisher being able to boast on one occasion that every man hired for the year had pledged himself to temperance. Some friction was excited by Mr. Fisher's adherence to Masonry, but caused no serious inconvenience. Mr. William Fisher, Jr., and Mr. J. Ellis Fisher were able and efficient assistants in carrying forward the business—the former as superintendent, the latter in charge of the store. The oldest son, Doctor N. Augustus Fisher, left home at an early age to pursue his studies, and then engaged in the practice of dentistry in Providence. Foremost among the dentists of the day, his high character, pleasing manners, and the patience with which he bore long and wearisome infirmities, brought him even greater respect and honor.

Mr. William Fisher, Jr., a man of great rectitude and solidity of character, died in 1843. The ill health of Mr. Ellis Fisher, following the loss of his brother, made the charge of the business too heavy for Mr. Fisher, Sr., and in 1855 he made over his interest in the whole establishment and went south for a season. The breaking out of the rebellion made this sojourn much longer than was intended, even until after the return of peace. The remainder of his life was mainly passed with his daughter, Mrs. Lowell Holbrook, at Thompson village, where he died in serene old age, with remarkable preservation of mind and faculties, in October, 1878. The family had long passed from the home they had created, but their impress and influence still survive in the pleasant valley.

January 1st, 1856, Messrs. David Goddard and Jeremiah Pritchard, of Boston, assumed administration of Fisherville factory, and carried on the business successfully for five years. Mr. Charles Albro, of Taunton, then succeeded to part of the interest, but only retained it a short period. March 31st, 1864, Messrs. Grosvenor & Briggs purchased the whole Fisherville property from Pritchard & Albro, Mr. Grosvenor becoming the owner of three-fourths and Mr. Briggs of one-fourth. The sons of Mr. Grosvenor, William Grosvenor, Jr., and James B. M. Grosvenor now purchased each one-sixteenth of Mr. Briggs' interest. Four years later, in 1868, these young men received

shares in the Masonville Company and it was then that the two companies were consolidated and the present Grosvenor-Dale Company instituted. The ownership had passed in both companies from the original founders into the hands of the Messrs. Grosvenor mainly, and it was fitting, as well as a matter of great convenience and almost necessity, that these several villages and interests should be ranged under the name of the standing proprietors. Masonville, with its factories and village, was therefore appropriately re-christened Grosvenor Dale, and Fisherville replaced by North Grosvenor Dale. Much additional territory was purchased by the new company, including a water privilege as valuable and capable of affording as much power as either of those previously utilized, so that their land extended from Wilsonville to Mechanicsville. An advance along the whole line was immediately ordered. To provide for a greater head and more permanent supply of water, a new dam and reservoir were to be constructed. These works were accomplished by great outlay of money and labor in the most substantial and thorough manner.

Two dams were built at North Grosvenor Dale, each a hundred feet in length—the second built at an angle with the first, designed to relieve the extreme pressure in time of freshets—which were models of strength and mechanical adaptation. They were raised eleven feet, six inches above the previous Fisherville dam. The level of the railroad at this point being nearly parallel with the old dam, it was necessary to construct a dyke or embankment of stone and gravel about half a mile in length above the dam, which was done in the most substantial manner at very heavy expenditure. A capacious and beautiful reservoir was thus formed, extending up to the dam of the Wilsonville privilege. At the same time preparations were going on for building the great mill at North Grosvenor Dale. Another dyke was constructed leading to the site of the new building, half a mile long, a hundred feet wide at the bottom and twenty at the top, which from the height of the dam and the conformation of the land, was a work of great difficulty, requiring much engineering skill and a vast amount of labor.

All these works, together with the new building, were completed in 1872. This stately and beautiful structure is 464 feet long, 73 feet wide, with four stories and an attic; also an ell

128 by 67 feet, and a continuation of the same, 157 by 50 feet, with separate buildings for steam engine, boiler and gas works. The capacity of the whole building is 65,000 spindles. The power is furnished by three Jeuvel wheels of 270 horse power each. There is also a Corliss steam engine of 450 horse power to be used at low stages of water. The machinery was of the most improved make, embracing the latest improvements. In respect of beauty, solidity, convenience and adaptation to the purpose for which it is designed, this North Grosvenor Dale mill is not surpassed by any in the country. To furnish homes for the large number of workmen many new houses were requisite, all of which were built by the company with the same good taste and liberal and judicious expenditure. The old Fisherville stone mill, with renovated machinery, is also operated.

The Grosvenor Dale Company now operates more machinery than any cotton manufacturing company in the state, and carries out the design of the original founders in furnishing as desirable a grade of goods as can be found in the market. In 1883, Mr. Briggs sold his interest to the Grosvenors, having been compelled by ill health to relinquish his position. Mr. William Grosvenor, Sr., head of the firm and so prominently connected with all its interests, died in 1888, leaving the great manufacturing establishment in the hands of his sons, William and James B. M. Grosvenor. These gentlemen have developed marked capacity for business, and their careful training, experience and sagacity, guarantee the successful prosecution of the trusts committed to their hands. Mrs. Rosa A. Grosvenor preceded her husband a few years, a lady of rare excellence, whose name will be ever associated with the building up and growth of this great manufacturing interest.

The changes wrought in the last fifteen years have been indeed marvelous. Former residents familiar with the old-time Masonville and Fisherville, as they see the stately factory buildings, the places of business, the array of dwelling houses, the new streets, the school houses, the Catholic and Swedish houses of worship, as they see the throngs of foreigners crowding the streets of a Saturday night, and hear a Babel of alien tongues, may well fancy themselves in a foreign land. Of the twelve hundred and fifty operatives less than two hundred are of New England origin; about seven hundred and fifty are French Canadians, and the remainder are Irish and Swedes. Alien in

religion and character, as well as in blood and tongue, the Canadians were at first slow to assimilate with their surroundings, but within a few years a great change is perceptible, and a majority now prefer to remain in New England and become permanent citizens, as well as those of other nationalities. In all that tends to the physical and moral well-being of the workmen and their families, and to the up-building and prosperity of the two villages, the Grosvenor Dale Company manifests a wise and liberal interest. The present resident manager is Mr. Frank M. Messenger, of Cheshire county, New Hampshire.

Increase in trade and business inevitably follows increase of population. Many New England families have been drawn into the villages to help supply the needs of this army of workmen. North Grosvenor Dale has been particularly favored, having established three dry-goods or variety stores, one grain store, one hardware store, three markets, one carriage manufactory. One of these stores is carried on by a life-long resident, Mr. J. Nichols Upham, the first child born in Fisherville, whose father, Mr. Ransom Upham, helped lay the foundations of factory and village. Others are kept by Messrs. John Elliott, B. S. Thompson, Simon S. Parkhurst, Henry Paradis. The Grosvenor Dale store is carried on by Mr. Thomas Hutchinson. The carriage manufactory of Messrs. Arad U. and George E. Elliott is a very important industry, employing a number of workmen, and bringing into the village descendants of one of the substantial old settlers of the town. The partnership was formed in 1875; a blacksmith's shop, store house and carriage house were soon erected. Wagons are built to order, and ordinary job work carried on. Messrs. A. U. and G. E. Elliott have served the town as representatives and selectmen and in other capacities. Another old Thompson family is represented by Mr. Oscar Tourtellotte, first selectman, who has been very prominent in school and public affairs. Nathan Rawson, who died a few years since, had served the town as justice and in various other capacities, and was a much respected and influential resident of North Grosvenor Dale. In the recent death of Constable William Cummings, so popular and prominent in civil and military affairs, Grosvenor Dale has met with a heavy loss.

The new elements in the manufacturing center bring new developments in church and school. In January, 1888, 876 children of school age were reported in the two Grosvenor Dale

districts. A modern convenient school house was built in Grosvenor Dale in 1878. North Grosvenor Dale suffered much for lack of suitable accommodations, and now rejoices in a most eligible modern school house, with four ample rooms and every needful convenience, on a sightly eminence removed from the bustle of the village, built at a cost of $7,835, by a tax upon the district, and opened for use in the autumn of 1888.

The first Catholics in the two villages attended service in the churches of Webster and Putnam. The first minister to visit and look after them was Reverend Father Duffy, of Pascoag, R. I. When Putnam parish was formed in 1866, Thompson was constituted an out-mission. Reverend Father Vygen then assumed charge and held services in the Masonville chapel, and later in a hall. In 1872 Father Vygen purchased twelve acres of land between the Grosvenor Dales, and immediately commenced the erection of St. Joseph's church, a gothic wooden structure, costing $10,000. This church was solemnly dedicated by Right Reverend F. P. McFarland, September 29th, 1872; the sermon on the occasion was delivered by Reverend H. Martial, assistant pastor of Putnam. The following January a parish was formed, embracing the whole town excepting Mechanicsville, West Thompson and Quadic, under the name of St. Joseph's Catholic Society, including about nine hundred worshipers. Father Martial was appointed its pastor; lay trustees, Patrick Kelley and Louis P. Lamoureux. A pastoral residence was completed the same year. In 1874 the cemetery was laid out and was blessed by Very Reverend James Hughes, V. G., administrator of the diocese, June 15th. In 1880 the parish was made to embrace the whole town, and Reverend A. J. Haggerty sent as assistant to Father Martial. During this year a church edifice was erected at West Thompson and dedicated by Right Reverend L. S. McMahon.

Father Flanagan took charge of the parish after Father Martial's decease, assisted by Reverend J. H. Fitzmaurice. Other assistants in the field were Reverends A. J. Haggerty, T. R. Sweeney, J. P. Connelly, I. W. Fones, R. F. Moore, W. E. Flanagan. Reverend Thomas Cooney succeeded to the pastorate at Grosvenor Dale, February 14th, 1883, and soon instituted mission work at New Boston and Quinebaug. Land for a church edifice was given by Eben S. Stevens, of Quinebaug, and $300. Its architect and builder was L. P. Lamoureux; cost, $3,000.

This third Catholic church in Thompson, St. Stephens, was dedicated by Right Reverend L. S. McMahon, March 30th, 1884. February 2d, 1886, Mechanicsville and vicinity was constituted a distinct parish, with Pomfret as an out mission, Reverend W. E. Flanagan, pastor. A pastoral residence was built the following year, at a cost of $3,000. Father Cooney continues in charge at Grosvenor Dale. The Catholic population of the town numbers some 2,800. Since the erection of St. Joseph's parish, there have been 1,600 baptisms, 380 marriages, 630 deaths. The school, established with much labor and personal sacrifice, is very flourishing. A substantial, three-story building, containing convent, school and hall, was erected in 1881, at a cost of $12,000; architect and builder, Louis P. Lamoureux. This building was placed under the charge of "the Sisters of Holy Cross," for a free Catholic school; was opened January 2d, 1882, with an attendance of three hundred children. In addition to the branches taught in the common schools of the state, the children receive a thorough religious training, together with an elementary course in the French language. Present number of pupils, 400; average attendance, 360.

Next to the French the Swedes are gaining in numbers and readily assimilate with their new surroundings. The Swedish church in Grosvenor Dale numbers 320 communicants; a house of worship was erected in 1884; their first pastor was Reverend Ludwig Holmes, a man much beloved by his people and respected by all. Reverend G. E. Fosberg, now a student, has been called to the Swedish pastorate.

The rival company that cast such disdainful eyes and name upon the future Grosvenor Dale, has a very different record. As the "Connecticut Manufacturing Company," securing a most eligible privilege upon the Quinebaug and Boston turnpike, and very near the junction of the Boston and Providence turnpikes, it may have thought its prospects of success and continuance far more favorable. John and Jonathan Nichols, Jr., Daniel Dwight, William Dwight, Jr., Benjamin Arnold and Samuel Perrin, organized as a manufacturing company in 1811. A substantial brick building was soon erected and made ready for work; substantial workmen came with their families, the new Methodist meeting house and the prevalence of the Methodist element, drawing Methodists to this church center. Shubael Cady and Joseph Buck were among these Methodist brethren, caring for

the souls of the children as well as the work that could be gotten out of them. The hard times of 1815–18 told heavily upon Brick Factory, and the death of some of the founders led to entire reconstruction. In 1821, the interest was sold to William Reed, Esq., a native of Attleborough, Mass., one of the constituent members of the Danielsonville Manufacturing Company of Killingly, and for many years its resident manager. Walter Paine, of Providence, joined with him the following year and continued a partner till 1829, when Mr. Reed purchased the whole establishment. George Larned, 2d, who had married the only daughter of Esquire Reed, carried on the store.

Under this administration the Brick Factory pursued its way prosperously for many years. The high character of the proprietors and their excellent wives gave tone to the village. The temperance movement found willing advocates and a deep religious spirit pervaded the community. One of its most esteemed citizens, Mr. Faxon Nichols, served as first postmaster. Reverend Hezekiah Ramsdell, an early resident, did good service in village and town by his interest in public education, and also in the culture of flowers and choice fruit. Brick Factory, or Reedville, or West Thompson Village, as it was variously called, was particularly flourishing just after the opening of the Norwich & Worcester railroad, when residents of the future Putnam attended church at its meeting house and received their mail matter at its post office. Prosperity was checked by the burning of the factory in 1849, and as Esquire Reed was now advanced in years, he sold the manufacturing privilege to his son, Mr. Ezra C. Reed, of New Haven, Conn., who retained it but a few years, and after needful repairs and refitting conveyed the whole interest to Messrs. Henry Sharpe and Walker. Esquire Reed and his estimable wife passed their declining years with their son in New Haven, living to extreme old age.

West Thompson village has made little or no advance since the latter change. Various attempts have been made to revive the former interest or develop new industries. In 1881 Mr. Oscar F. Chase, who had succeeded Sharpe and Walker in ownership, sold his interest to Messrs. Sayles and Washburn, of Mechanicsville, who have reconstructed the privilege and changed the course of the Quinebaug. The village remains as ever, a pleasant place of residence, the home of substantial families, and doubtless in time will be revivified and farther built up by the thriving interest on its borders.

Mechanicsville dates back to 1827, when a privilege upon the French river, just above its junction with the Quinebaug, was secured by a number of enterprising men, viz., Erastus Buck, Augusus Howe, Thomas and James Dike, Jude Sabin, John Chollar, Jacob Leavens and James Cunningham, who associated together as "The Mechanics' Company" for the manufacture of woolen goods, and put up a three-story wooden mill, a saw mill and an eight-tenement block for operatives. All members of the company were expected to help carry forward the work personally. Mr. Howe served as agent; the Messrs. Dike and Cunningham carried on the machine shop; Mr. Buck drove the mules; and Mr. Leavens superintended the weavers. A workshop bought with the land was transformed into a school house. For some unassigned reason, perhaps because one level head is a better motor than half a dozen, the co-operative experiment failed of success, and in about three years the company dissolved, and in 1835 the whole property was sold at auction to William Rhodes and Thomas Truesdell, who run the mill intermittently till it was purchased by Mr. Smith Wilkinson in 1838. For five years it struggled on under different lessees, till destroyed by fire in 1843.

In 1858 Messrs. Sabin and Harris Sayles and Mowry Ross made arrangements with Mr. Edmond Wilkinson, under which they built a small brick mill and engaged in the manufacture of fancy cassimere. In 1865 Messrs. Thomas D. Sayles and Warren Harris became partners with the Messrs. Sayles in the Mechanicsville Company, purchasing the previous establishment and adjacent territory. A new and beautiful brick building was speedily erected, 250 by 42 feet, four stories high, and fitted up with the best machinery and every modern appointment. A large number of operatives were straightway imported, new houses built, and great improvements made in the village. The dingy old workshop which had done duty for a school room was replaced by a neat brick building. Since the assumption of Mechanicsville by the present proprietors, Messrs. Thomas D. Sayles and B. S. Washburn, in 1879, very great changes have been wrought. Purchasing the West Thompson privilege, the Ellis farm, and other needful territory, the firm entered upon a work of demolition and reconstruction, costing some years of labor and half a million of money. A new and very superior dam was built, the channel of the Quinebaug deep-

ened and in some places turned, roads straightened and new ones constructed, hills leveled and valleys filled up, resulting in an entire transformation. The drive to West Thompson over the smooth, level road, with its iron bridges, with the sparkling blue lake on one side, and the picturesque verdant park, reclaimed from marsh land, on the other, is indeed "a thing of beauty" and a perpetual joy. The same good taste has transformed and beautified the village. The factory building, with its green lawn in front, occupies one of the finest locations in New England, and everything about premises and village are in perfect keeping, emblematic, it is said, of the unusual harmony in the relations between employers and employed. The present number of operatives is three hundred and fifty—Canadian French, German, Irish, Swede. A Catholic house of worship was built in 1880—"The Church of the Sacred Heart"—Mr. Thomas D. Sayles giving land and $500 for that purpose.

A new iron bridge now spans the Quinebaug near West Thompson station. The old Thompson burying ground, opened soon after 1720, is now in excellent condition. An ample addition on the north, provided by Mr. George H. Nichols, precludes the anticipated need of a modern cemetery. Descendants of Captain Jonathan Nichols, viz., Elder John Nichols, Esquire Jonathan Nichols, Messrs Faxon and Captain George Nichols, have been very prominent in town, filling many public offices with credit and usefulness. The latter is now represented by his sons, Jerome and George H. Nichols, who also serve the town in many public capacities. A third son, the late lamented Lieutenant Colonel Munroe Nichols, gave a life of much promise to the service of his country in the late war. The family of Mr. James Cunningham, one of the original proprietors of Mechanics' Factory, still reside in the vicinity. The venerable Mr. Winthrop H. Ballard and his son, Mr. Stephen Ballard, are respected residents.

The Five Mile or Assawaga river, in the east of the town, has propelled but one small factory in Thompson, though helping run several larger establishments in towns below. Grist and saw mills have been kept at work since the first settlement of the town. In 1813 a number of gentlemen from Providence, viz., Emor Angell, Nehemiah Knight, Thomas Burgess, John Mackie, associated with Stephen Matthewson, of Johnston, R. I., and Josiah Sessions and Joseph Waterman, of Thompson, as the

Quadic Manufacturing Company, and bought land and water privilege in the little hamlet of Quadic, of a well-known resident, Deacon Jonathan Converse. They soon erected a small building and engaged in the manufacture of woolen hats. The close of the war brought untimely end to this enterprise, which was soon replaced by the inevitable cotton factory, set in motion by Mr. John Mason and a new company. A larger factory was now built, and a number of dwelling houses between 1820–'22.

In 1822 Mr. Mason, for $1,900 sold "one-third interest in the Quadic Manufacturing Company, set off as one-half of the late hat manufactory," to Messrs. Sessions and Waterman, who for a number of years continued in charge, manufacturing "Quadic sheeting." Calvin Randall and Stephen B. Winsor had also rights in the mill. Nelson S. Eddy purchased the establishment in 1835, and resided a number of years in the village, employing from fifty to seventy-five men, women and children. Quadic village, with its factory, daily stage-coach passing through it, and constant teaming to and from Providence, was then a brisk little settlement, its convenient store in pre-temperance days furnishing spirituous refreshment to many a weary traveller. After the decease of Mr. Eddy the factory was leased for a time to Card & Stone. In 1848 Mr. Lemuel K. Blackmar assumed the charge of the saw and grist mills, and a little later fitted up the old "red hat factory," for the manufacture of twine. Mr. David Warner, who purchased rights of the children of Mr. Eddy, also carried on twine manufacture. The privilege of deepening the channel of the Assawaga, and constructing a reservoir for supplying Dayville and Attawagan factories with water, was obtained by the Messrs. Sayles and Blackstone, resulting in the formation of a full, deep lake, setting backward to near the north bound of the town. Mowry Ross, a veteran mill owner, purchased the Quadic privilege in 1873. His sons, Mowry and Isaac Ross, built a tasteful new mill on the south side of the road, which fell into possession of Mr. A. W. Thurber, of Putnam. Its destruction by fire has apparently put an end to Quadic cotton manufacture. The old saw and grist mills also rest from their labors. A few of the former residents still linger in the picturesque little village. Sabbath schools have been kept up for many years in the Quadic school house, by earnest Baptist brethren, viz., Deacons Stephen Crosby and Welcome Bates, Mr. Newton Ballard and others.

When Brandy hill first assumed its inspiriting name is beyond the memory of descendants of the oldest inhabitant. Tradition refers it to the bursting of a brandy hogshead upon the hill, and it may be inferred that the great outflow of liquor at Starr's tavern during the days of turnpike opening, helped to make it permanent. Succeeding stage taverns were famous for the concoction of flip, the poker being kept red hot in the glowing coals for that purpose from morn till eve. Before the much-needed temperance reform it was the custom of honored fathers of Thompson hill to take their wives and daughters, after a specially hard day's work at house cleaning or the like, to this famous tavern, to be cheered if not inebriated by foaming flip. Brandy hill at that date boasted a special military company and trainings, with a flourishing store, and at one time secured a vote to hold town meetings part of the time at the Baptist meeting house. It was also famous for singing schools and occasional balls. A stately row of poplars was set out about 1800 by Captain Isaac Davis. The meeting house and taverns were said to have built up Brandy hill village, and with the decay of the latter the village declined. It has furnished a pleasant home for many residents, particularly the descendants of the faithful town clerk, Mr. Nathaniel Mills, whose sons, Nathaniel, Colonel Isaac, Ashley and Corbin Mills, have had homes in the village or in its vicinity. The old church still holds its own as has been noticed elsewhere, and the venerable row of poplars stands as a familiar land-mark.

The northeast part of the town was sparsely settled for many years, the descendants of Nathaniel Jacobs and Israel Joslin occupying many of its farms and homesteads. Turnpike travel increased the number of residents, and the "Jacobs District" became quite populous. The Methodist church and projected railroad helped to centralize this population, but it was not till the Boston & Erie railroad was fairly opened that East Thompson village entered upon existence. Its importance was increased by the junction with the Southbridge Branch. A number of families connected in various ways with the railroad interest now occupy the village. Shoe manufacture was carried on for a time by the Reverend Isaac Sherman, a useful and respected citizen. The store established by him is now conducted by Mr. George H. Wilber, the present postmaster. A store is also kept by R. J. Steins. The family which gave its name to

this district is much less numerous than in former years—several branches failing from extinction or emigration. One of its oldest representatives, Mr. Joseph D. Jacobs, has recently removed from a family homestead to Thompson hill. Two of his seven sons gave their lives to their country; the survivors are engaged in business in various parts of the land.

The present Wilsonville occupies the site of the "Child's Mills" of former generations. Elijah Converse came into possession about 1796, and conveyed them to his son, Mr. Riel Converse, who ran grist and saw mills. In 1822 he sold mills and privilege, with nine acres of land, to Mr. Zirah Preston, for $2,700. Mr. Preston in the following year sold land to Mr. Laban T. Wilson, with privilege to run a wheel for the purpose of manufacturing woolen goods. Mr. Wilson soon put up and set in motion a small establishment, engaging in the manufacture of satinet. In 1824 he leased the grist and saw mills, and gave his name to the growing village. After ten years of doubtful success, he gave place to a succession of owners—John Farnam, Wheeler Barrett, Riel Converse, Archelaus Upham, the Messrs. Capron, E. A. Wheelock, Oscar Chase, who carried on the mills in intermittent fashion with varying success till the inevitable fire consumed the old building. The present proprietor, Mr. Reegan, has built a small mill and engaged in woolen manufacture. Many of the residents of this village are descended from old families. Mr. Diah Upham, who has filled many town offices, carried on mercantile business for fifteen years. Mr. Samuel Adams has kept the Wilsonville store for twenty years. The Wilsonville burying ground shows that many residents of this vicinity lived to advanced age. Mr. Riel Converse exceeded ninety-two years. Mrs. Nathaniel (Whitford) Child, who died at Wilsonville, May 21st, 1877, aged one hundred years and thirty-six days, attained the greatest age of any Thompson woman on record. Her son, Hon. Marcus Child, a very respectable citizen, twice representing the town at the legislature, died suddenly within a few years.

New Boston site was occupied at a very early date. Among its old time celebrities were Mr. Samuel Morris and Mr. William Chandler, the latter a son of Hon. John Chandler of Woodstock, whose wife, Jemima Bradbury, boasted the bluest blood in Massachusetts. Their large house, near the west line of the town, was for half a century the most aristocratic establishment in the

vicinity, kept up in true colonial style, with negro and Indian servants, stately furniture, books and pictures. Captain Chandler was, like his father, a skillful surveyor, and was the only man in town bold enough to ask to have a road laid out to accommodate his business, as well as "travel to Thompson meeting house."

The Morris-Holbrook farm fell finally into the hands of Captain Goodell, a noted military man, whose wife was a daughter of John Holbrook. Residents in this vicinity who had purchased old Dudley land were involved in the famous lawsuit brought by Paul Dudley for the recovery of these farms, on the ground that, as entailed property, the sale was unlawful. The final trial of this case before the supreme court at Washington was the great event of the generation, with Daniel Webster pleading for the defendants, and the distinguished orator, William Pinkney, stricken with fatal disease while arguing against them.

The northwest corner of Thompson received a new impulse from the opening of the Providence & Southbridge turnpike, with its travel and taverns. The Barnes and Chaffee tavern stands became noted places of resort. The old Morris farm on the Quinebaug was now held mainly by heirs of John Holbrook, who purchased it from Benjamin Wilkinson. His son, Thomas, gave the valley the now familiar name, New Boston. The widow of Thomas Holbrook married for her second husband in 1802, Colonel Joseph Chapin, whose name is still preserved in the neighborhood. His sisters, married to Ephraim and Sylvanus Houghton and Captain Amos Goodell, also occupied Morris homesteads. Jason Phipps bought land of Benjamin Morris as early as 1760. Other settlers in the vicinity were: William Copeland, Thomas Ormsbee, William Jordan, who, with other substantial families, made a pleasant neighborly society.

Ebenezer Phelps of Sutton, bought land and water privilege of the Houghtons in 1804, and set up saw and grist mills. Part of this privilege was soon made over to Rufus Coburn and Alpheus Corbin, who introduced a fulling mill and carding machine. The present "Phelps House" was completed in 1808. William Jordan and William Lamson also bought land of Phelps and Houghton, building substantial houses in the growing village. A burial lot for the use of the neighborhood was given by Mrs. Chapin, and enclosed and made ready for occupation by the

adjacent residents. The first interment was that of Lucy Robbins, in 1813.

The clothiery works were purchased by John Barber in 1815, who built the house now owned by Mr. William Copeland. He was succeeded for a short interval by Otis Nichols. Mr. Parley Jordan engaged in the manufacture of axes and other edged tools in 1821. William Jordan, Sr., built a fine new tavern house on the street in 1828, with a large hall, which was opened by a ball and appropriate exercises. Manufacturing enterprise had now sought out New Boston. Edward Howard, an Englishman, secured water privilege and surrounding land in 1829, and soon erected a small brick mill for the manufacture of satinets. Marrying a resident, Miss Lucy Houghton, he expected to spend his life in this pleasant resting place, but adverse fate pursued him, and he was lost at sea on his voyage homeward from England. His widow survived him but a few months. A "New Boston Manufacturing Company" essayed to carry on the mill, but met various misadventures. Company after company was formed, began work, and made assignments. It was said that the Devil, alert to seize the opportunity, "had been let into the wheel-pit" at the beginning of the enterprise, and that was the cause of all the calamities.

A store was kept up and some shoemaking and minor business essayed. Mr. Parley Jordan's trip-hammer did good service for many years. Messrs. William Billings and Upham came into possession of the factory in 1853, and remained in charge twelve years. A Social Circle and Library were established during this period, through the agency of Mrs. Billings and Mrs. Upham. Still greater improvements have been effected during the administration of the present proprietors—the Messrs. Murdock. They found mill and tenement buildings greatly dilapidated, morality at a low ebb, rum sold at several places. The process of renovation was slow and difficult. Flood and fire made havoc with the ancient dam and factory buildings, but apparently drove out the original enemy, and with new dam and buildings prosperity dawned upon the New Boston Manufacturing Company. Continued additions have been made and new machinery introduced. About eighty hands are now employed, half of them Americans. In thrift and morality there have been great advances, and New Boston now compares favorably with other manufacturing villages. Religious services are held

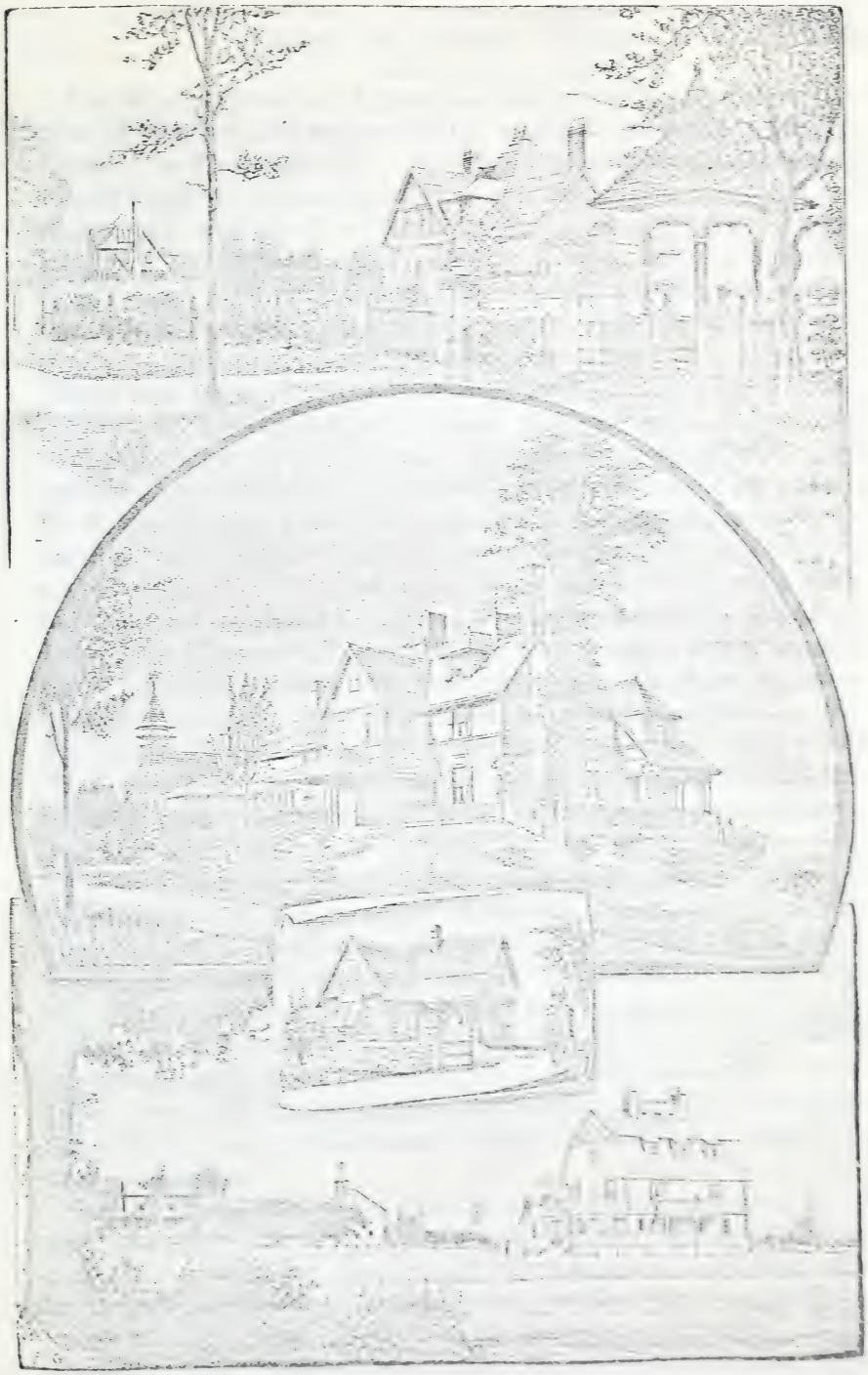
statedly in the hall, and the comfort and well-being of the operatives made a special care. The energy and public spirit of the Messrs. Murdock and their assistant, Mr. Ira N. Bates, have added much to the standing and influence of this section of the town. Mr. Bates has served as selectman and town representative. The spirit of improvement has permeated the village. The abundance of flowers and neat appearance of the houses have long been remarked. The "Ladies' Union Circle," established in 1855, has aided much in promoting good feeling and social intercourse, and its library has proved an incalcuable benefit. Mr. Jerome Jordan served first as librarian; Miss Jane Ormsbee succeeded, but since 1857 Miss Mary P. Jordan has administered the offices of librarian, secretary and treasurer with much fidelity and acceptance. Some seven hundred volumes are now included in the library.

New Boston village is particularly noted for its cordial hospitality and enjoyable social entertainments, its ancient and modern elements most happily uniting on such occasions. The institution of a branch railroad in place of the former turnpike is a great convenience, and a new Quinebaug village is growing up around the station. While some of the early New Boston families are still represented, others have passed away. Mr. Edward Aldrich, the last representative of the several sons of Mr. Esek Aldrich, died some years since. An eccentric resident, stranded in New Boston after the shipwreck of Dorr's experiment in Rhode Island—Aaron White, Esq.—died in 1886. Fuller details of his character and career will be found in another section. The late Jesse Ormsbee and Harvey Lamson, Esquires, Messrs. William and Parley Jordan will long be remembered as among the honored citizens of the town.

Nothing worthy of the name of village existed in Thompson during the last century. Four or five houses and a blacksmith shop had been built upon Thompson hill, in the vicinity of the meeting house; the meeting house, as in many hill towns, building up a village instead of the village building the meeting house. But when it was found that two lines of turnpike were to intersect upon the hill, new life sprang up. The Joseph Watson house, Wickham's store and Keith's tavern were built before 1800, and soon after that date several houses were erected, especially upon the east side of the Providence turnpike. Building was, however, impeded by the scarcity of building lots, the north

part of the hill being included in the Watson estate, which was not thrown into market till after the death of Widow Samuel Watson in 1813. The north end of the hill was then purchased by George Larned, Esq., and laid out in building lots, he himself occupying the Watson house (now Judge Rawson's) as a dwelling house and law office. On the opposite site a house was speedily built by Hezekiah Olney. Mr. Noadiah Comins built the house adjoining southward, and Doctor James Webb a third house (now occupied by Mrs. Tallman). The site below was soon filled by the old meeting house transformed into a town house, and the nucleus of the present tavern was put up on the corner by Stephen E. Tefft. Doctor Webb left town before completing his house, and was followed by Doctor Horatio Holbrook, who built on the north side of the street, adjoining Esquire Larned's.

A handsome brick house on the corner had been previously built by John Nichols, and a large house with brick ends was built on another corner northward by Noadiah Russel, Esq. Captain Joel Taylor built several houses east of the tavern, on the Providence turnpike, the first of which was long occupied by Obadiah Stone. A small house nearly opposite was put together by Simon Davis, Esq. All this building, together with the teaming and stage coaches, made the hill very lively. Many of the new residents engaged in business. Mr. Olney manufactured hats; Mr. Comins, harness; Mr. Stone, shoes; Nichols and Tefft carried on various stores; Esquire Davis practiced law; Mr. Theodore Dwight made a most acceptable landlord in the new turnpike tavern; Mr. Rufus Coburn entered upon trade. Rum was sold without restriction in all the stores and taverns. A house-warming frolic, in which all these business men and leading citizens indulged in great excesses, called out Mr. Dow's first temperance sermon. Fixing his eye upon the offenders with most scathing rebuke, he thundered out the scriptural queries—"Who hath woe? Who hath sorrow? Who hath contentions? Who hath babblings? Who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine." But the fact that the next day the pastor himself took a glass of wine at the house of a parishioner marred the practical effect of the sermon. All classes were greatly benefitted by the rise of the temperance reform, banishing liquor from common household use, social entertainments and the better class of stores.



"HOWARD" COTTAGE.

"HARRY" COTTAGE.

"RATHLIN"—RESIDENCE OF GEORGE LOTHROP BRADLEY, FLIMSY CENTRE, CONN.

"RATHLIN" LODGE.

"STILLESEN."

"HOPE" COTTAGE.

The rapid expansion of business and manufactures after the close of the first half century of the republic brought a special "boom" to Thompson hill. Residents of neighboring factories sought supplies of needful articles and luxuries at its well-filled stores, now conducted by Messrs. Almy & Crosby and Erastus Knight. Mr. Edward Shaw, of Providence, opened a watchmaker's and jeweler's store in 1830, a great novelty and attraction, customers coming miles from every direction to have their watches regulated and buy glittering ornaments. Mr. Hezekiah Olney, now high sheriff of Windham county, built a brick block between the tavern and town house, and opened a fashionable "New York hat and cap store." Horatio Paine engaged in the manufacture of boots. The tailors' shops conducted by Albert E. Whipple and James O. Mills were largely patronized, as nothing in the line of ready-made clothing could then be procured. Mrs. C. C. Dow supplied a large constituency with tasteful and fashionable millinery. Messrs. Andrew B. Baldwin, James Hutchins, Danforth Kinney and Walter Bates opened shops for carriages and furniture making. All these business enterprises found convenient financial accommodation in the Thompson Bank, incorporated in 1833. The year preceding Thompson had the enterprise to purchase a jaunty little fire engine, run by an efficient company. Among other innovations, the newspaper came to Thompson hill. George Roberts, publisher at a later day of the first cheap daily paper in Boston, and the originator of the famous "Mammoth Newspaper," entered upon his journalistic career as the editor of a dainty little semi-weekly called *The Thompson Transcript*. This was soon succeeded by a *Weekly Bulletin*, but neither was able to support existence. They were followed by *The Windham County Gazette*, published by another newspaper celebrity, the J. P. Chapman who was ordered "to crow" in the Tippecanoe campaign. His newspaper lingered for several years, but collapsed in 1837 with many kindred enterprises.

One of Thompson's chief notabilities in these booming years was "the Stiles Tavern," claiming that more stage passengers dined there every day than at any other house in New England. Its proprietor, Captain Vernon Stiles, was the very *beau ideal* of a landlord—big, hearty, jolly. More than that, he was a public spirited citizen, a graceful speaker and an adroit politician. His bar room was the headquarters of the democratic party, and his

spacious hall the scene of many a festive entertainment. Thompson's peculiar matrimonial facilities had then been recognized, cornering as it did upon two states where a two or three weeks' publishment of intention was required before the marriage ceremony, while Connecticut let them off with one brief pulpit notice. It became very much the fashion for affianced pairs in these states to drive to Thompson on a Sunday morn, and there be united at Stiles's tavern. For a time the ministers were called in to perform the ceremony at intermission of divine service, but the calls became so frequent, and the consequent Sabbath breaking so alarming, that they resigned the office to Captain Stiles, as justice, who tied the nuptial knot with a grace and sympathy that charmed all participants. Scarce a Sabbath passed without bringing wedding parties to partake of the frosted loaf always made ready for them, and Thompson became widely known as the "Gretna Green of New England," run-a-ways on several occasions improving its facilities. Near the tavern, in the town house building, back of Mr. Shaw's shop, Esquire Davis kept the post office, the only one in town, and also a museum of curiosities and Indian relics, exciting much juvenile interest.

A very famous debating society was organized in 1833, with Simon Davis, Esq., president, Joseph B. Gay, vice-president, George Roberts, secretary, and a large number of members, where all the vital questions of the day were earnestly debated, and presumably settled. The lawyers, young and old, Doctors Holbrook and Bowen, Captain Stiles, schoolmasters from far and near, inquiring mechanics and active business men, entered upon this arena, and crossed swords in many a fiery conflict. Several houses were built during this period, but the hill, as depicted by Barber in his "Historical Collections" of 1836, had but a bare aspect. The trees set out by Judge John Nichols in the little "Heater Piece," and the row of trees near the Watson house, were its only shade. The old row of poplars at the south end of the village was already vanishing. Blindless and bare, the meeting house stood on the rough common, cut up by numerous wagon roads, and on the pointed apex westward a row of buildings stretched out—blacksmith's shop, house, barn, and at the extreme end a marble shop or gravestone manufactory, which in a few years gave place to a very aggressive grog shop, greatly quickening the demand for the former article.

During the progress of the Washingtonian temperance movement, party spirit ran very high. John Hawkins, the leader among reformed inebriates, made an early visit to Thompson hill, speaking night after night to crowded audiences in the Congregational meeting house, and persuading many common drunkards and moderate drinkers to sign the pledge and range themselves on the side of temperance. His success roused a very bitter spirit of opposition on the part of those who felt that their personal and social rights were invaded. The old tavern (late Wilks House) had become very obnoxious, its proprietor being a man utterly devoid of principle and common humanity. The death of one of his victims, turned out of doors and left to freeze in the barn, made a very deep impression on the community, and was used with most dramatic effect by Gough on the last night of a week's labor in Thompson. Having that day visited the mother of the dead man in a neighboring state, he told the story of this "prodigal son" as it fell from her lips, in the most pathetic and thrilling manner, no one in the house having a thought of any personal connection with it, until at the last he sent it home to every heart by the low, calm, overwhelming statement that this man *had died in a barn at Thompson*, after weeks' loitering about that abominable tavern. The keeper of the house was unable to stand against the overwhelming tide of public sentiment, and the house, after due purification, was made over for the use of Mr. Green's high school. Captain Stiles closed his bar and transformed his popular house into a temperance tavern.

The persecuted rum sellers were driven from tavern to cellar, and finally found refuge in the deserted stone cutter's shop at the west extremity of the common, a most eligible position, facing two streets, very near the newly erected town house, and greatly accommodating the obstinate old topers, who made a special point of exercising their liberties upon town meeting day. Dorr's refugees, coming up from Rhode Island, found much needed aid and comfort in this convenient grogery, and bestowed upon it the expressive name of "Ponog," borrowed from a similar favorite institution at home, originally signifying "a place of fair water," but by corruption "a place of fire water." A more unmitigated nuisance than the Thompson Ponog never afflicted a respectable community. Many resorted thither from all parts of the town; young men were enticed into liquor there; hooting and yelling disturbed the neighbors by

night, and free fights after a public day were not unusual; yet, notwithstanding the efforts and eloquence of temperance workers, it continued for several years to disgrace the village.

The town house was the first building on the south side of West street. Mr. Whitman Jacobs broke ground on the north side about 1835, building the house now occupied by Doctor Knight. Other houses were built in a few years by Messrs. Erastus Knight, Edward Shaw, Danforth Kinney, Waldo Comins and Thomas E. Graves. The row of maples was set out in 1839. Houses were built a few years later on the south side by Mrs. Thatcher and Mr. William H. Mason. In the summer of 1845 a lecture was given by Professor William A. Larned in the town house, upon "Beauty, Taste and Tree Culture,"—all summed up in the modern term, "Village Improvements." Mr. William H. Chandler was much interested in this matter and aided very efficiently in carrying out Professor Larned's suggestions. Spontaneous pledges of aid were given by many present, and in the following November a day was devoted to setting out all over the village, elm, maple and other trees, under the supervision of Mr. Chandler. A still greater improvement was effected in the demolition and removal of the Ponog and all its appurtenances—house, barn and blacksmith's shop, which were bought up by adjacent residents, and the point of land leveled off and reconstructed. Ten years later the common left bare by the removal of the meeting house, was leased temporarily to Esquire Graves for fencing and cultivation, which, with the growth of the trees and other improvements, added much to the beauty of the village.

With the opening of the Norwich & Worcester railroad and the discontinuance of stage coaching, business prosperity in Thompson rapidly declined. One by one, stores and shops were closed. As the valleys increased the hills wasted. Tailoring, shoemaking and carriage making fell off from year to year. Many excellent families removed from the village. Change of laws so much reduced the number of matrimonial frequenters that Captain Stiles resigned his office and followed the westward movement. Mr. Shaw took his shop and goods to Putnam. The store so long kept up by "Almy & Crosby" was closed and croakers prophesied the decay and ultimate extinction of the once flourishing village. Even the corner tavern was closed for a season, and the ever solid bank and Mr. Knight's principal

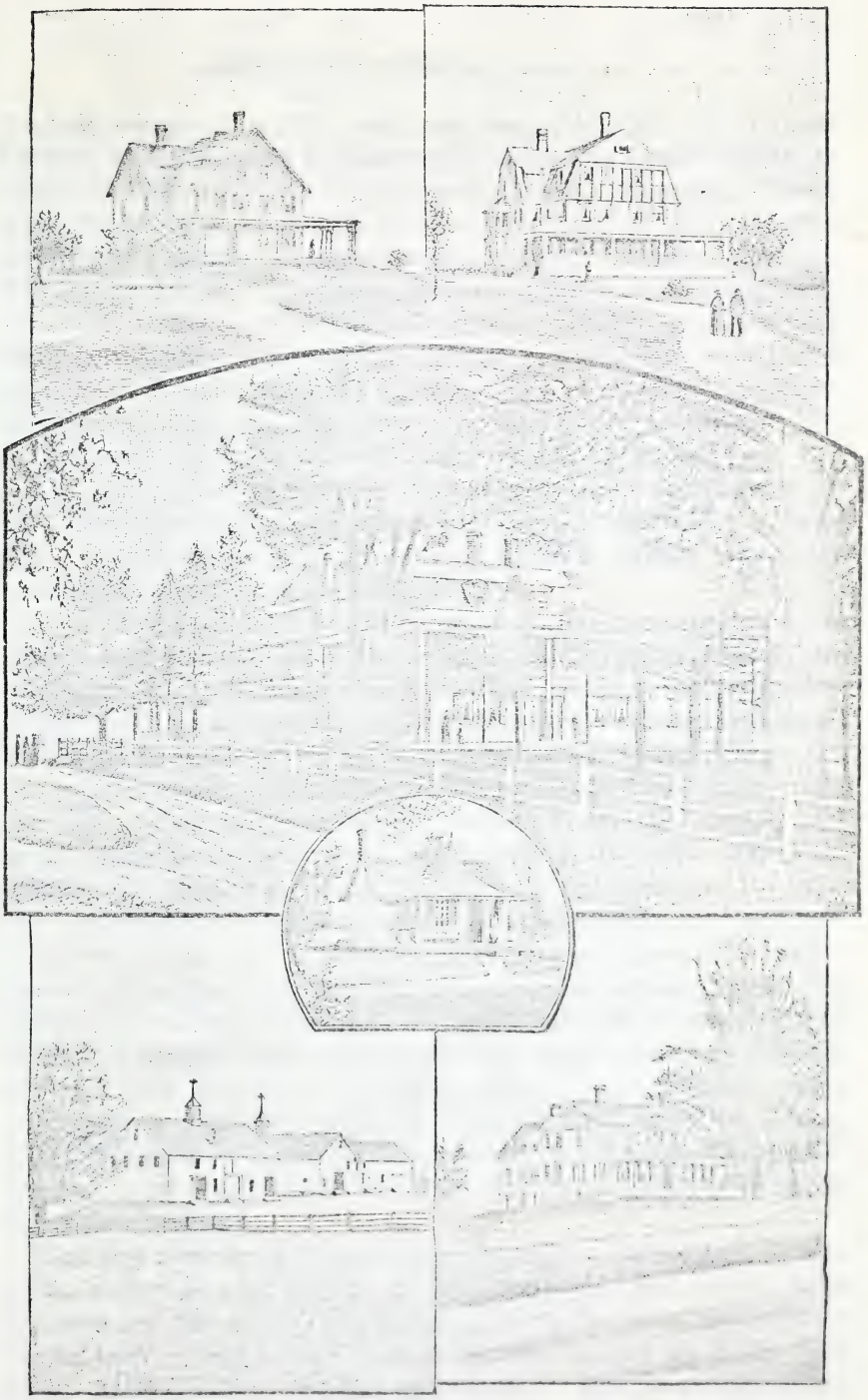
store seemed all that preserved it from stagnation. But after the lowest depth a reflex tide set in, bringing back elements of continued life and new prosperity. With the reopening of the hotel under Mr. Stephen Crosby in 1859, summer visitors came in, mostly families who had gone out from town, and relatives of residents.

Another decade passed and the "cottagers" came to stay, and these too were Thompson's own children, connected by family and social ties. Several new houses have been built and old ones transformed into picturesque villas. A Village Improvement Society was formed in 1875, which, though somewhat intermittent in character, has accomplished good results in grading and widening the streets, caring for the trees and improving sidewalks. Older residents have caught the spirit of the age, and take much pride in beautifying and improving their lawns and dwellings. Thompson residents and visitors are well accommodated with railroad privileges, the near vicinity of the New York & New England station bringing Boston, Providence, the sea shore and many resorts, within a day's compass. Business to any extent declines to return. Mr. James Kingsbury essayed shoe manufacturing for a time, but relapsed into storekeeping and care for the town interests. The removal of Mr. Charles Baldwin closed a carriage and wagon shop, dating back to nearly the beginning of the century. The only present representative of former industries is Mr. Walter Bates, whose "cabinet maker's shop" was opened by Mr. James Hutchins more than fifty years since. Yet notwithstanding the lack of business, Thompson hill is none the less a pleasant place of permanent residence, while its pure air, health giving breezes, and the picturesque drives in its vicinity, are very attractive to the summer sojourner. The Family Hotel, kept so satisfactorily for twenty-five years by the late Mr. Crosby, promises to be equally popular under its present proprietor, Landlord Chapin, who has treated the old tavern house with a new furnace and effected many improvements.

The Thompson hill of the present day has never appeared to better advantage than on Memorial Day, 1887, when for the first time the town made public provision for celebrating this occasion. Under the auspices of Major William S. Beebe (then recently removed into the Mason house), the town house was decorated in the most unique and effective manner with red,

white and blue stars, banners and streamers, and emblazoned with the names of every battle field and engagement during the civil conflict. Soldiers and war veterans in Thompson and Putnam, members of the Grand Army of the Republic, Sons of Veterans, and other bodies, were invited to participate in the festivities. The day was exceptionally fine, the village in fresh spring suit looked its best, and everything passed off in the most harmonious and delightful manner. After visiting the graves of their comrades in the different burial grounds of the town with the usual services and floral offerings, the several companies, with music and parade, marched by different roads into the village where great crowds had assembled to meet them, and then into the Congregational meeting house, which was draped with red, white and blue in simple but most effective style. The soldiers, with citizens gathered to receive them, filled the large house. A bevy of blooming girls, decked out for waitresses with white caps and aprons, and contrasting bands of dark bearded musicians, filled the choir. The services, prayer, singing, addresses, were exceedingly appropriate and inspiring. The march of the martial procession from the meeting house to the town house in the beautiful May sunshine, with the music and the white-capped girls, and the common filled with enthusiastic spectators, was one of the most picturesque and stirring scenes Thompson hill ever witnessed, far superior to the much vaunted "trainings" of other days, and based upon a far deeper and more intelligent patriotism. The collation served to many hundreds of weary men in the decorated town house was worthy of the day and occasion, and the rousing cheers for "Old Thompson" that closed the festivities were never more heartily given and appreciated.

Thompson Bank, which has so creditably held its own through village, national and financial vicissitudes, was incorporated in 1833—Harvey Blashfield, president; Joseph B. Gay, cashier. Among its early directors were Harvey Blashfield, John Nichols, William H. Mason, William Reed, William Fisher, Robert Grosvenor, Franklin Nichols, Jonathan Nichols, Simon Davis and George B. Slater. Neighboring manufacturers found this bank a convenient accommodation, and were much interested in its prosperity and stability. Some heavy losses that accrued in early years were tided over by the help of willing friends, and it soon gained a sterling reputation. Its second president, Judge John



"SOUTH" COTTAGE.

THE MAIN BUILDING.

THE PAVILION.

"OLIVE" COTTAGE.

THE BARNS.

"DAVIS" COTTAGE.

THE "BEN-GROSVENOR," POMFRET CENTRE, CONN.

Nichols, resigned in 1837, and was succeeded by Mr. Talcott Crosby, who remained in charge till compelled by ill health to resign in 1865, when he was succeeded by Mr. Jeremiah Olney, who still remains in charge, their united term of service covering fifty-two years. Messrs. Joseph B. Gay, Theodore Sharpe, William Osgood, A. E. Parker, Hiram and Charles Arnold have served as cashiers. Many of Thompson's most substantial and sterling citizens have acted as directors. The present board comprises Messrs. Jeremiah Olney, L. K. Blackmar, James N. Kingsbury, George H. Nichols, Thomas D. Sayles, Hiram Arnold, George S. Crosby, David Chase, Frank M. Messenger.

The Dime Savings Bank, of Thompson, was incorporated in 1871, and accommodates a large number of depositors. President, George H. Nichols; treasurer, Charles Arnold. Amount of deposits, January, 1888, $439,233.18.

The Thompson Fire Engine Company has entered upon its second half century, alive and in good condition, stimulated by the agreeable consciousness of having saved much valuable property. Its antiquated hand-engine, however insignificant and ridiculous to modern eyes, has as good a record as the largest in the nation, having put out every fire to which it has been summoned. Again and again it has rushed in at the breach and saved valuable houses from destruction. It has also faithfully fulfilled the second object of its creation—the exaction of fines for non-attendance upon its stated meetings, and expended part of its surplus in the "Thompson Fire Engine Library," a collection of valuable books, needing only care and fitting "local habitation" to make it worthy of its name. Its roll of membership embraces nearly every male resident of the vicinity of Thompson hill from the date of its formation. Present membership twenty-five; officers: George V. Ballard, captain; Fred Green, first lieutenant; George Wilks, second lieutenant; George W. Dexter, clerk and treasurer, also librarian; George Wilks to warn the company.

The first post office in town was opened on Thompson hill in 1805, Doctor Daniel Knight postmaster. His successors, John Nichols and Simon Davis, continued to be the sole postmasters of the town. The second post office was opened in Fisherville about 1840, William Fisher postmaster. Mr. Jeremiah Olney succeeded Esquire Davis at about the same date. A change in presidential administration sent the office into Mr. Knight's store

across the street. Another change bowled it back to Mr. Olney. Mr. James N. Kingsbury administered the office for several years. Mr. L. K. Blackmar held it during the Cleveland administration, and under the present dynasty it reverts to Mr. C. V. Chapin. Within the last generation its sphere has been much circumscribed—each manufacturing and railroad village demanding its own special accommodations. Nine post offices are now required by Thompson—the largest number of any town in the county. They are located at Thompson hill, East Thompson, West Thompson, Grosvenor Dale, North Grosvenor Dale, Mechanicsville, Wilsonville, New Boston and Quinebaug.

The recent loss of Hon. William H. Chandler, so long and intimately identified with the public interests of Thompson, is mourned by the whole community. Mr. Chandler was of Pomfret ancestry, born in Providence, R. I., April 14th, 1815, graduated from Yale College in 1839. Debarred from pursuing legal studies by weakness of eyes, he decided upon country life, and in 1842 purchased of Mrs. Jacob Dresser the "Priest Russel homestead" in Thompson village, taking possession of the old house immediately after his marriage, and devoting himself with much interest to the culture and improvement of his farm. He manifested from the first much interest in public affairs, making himself a power in town meetings and in the administration of town government. Although shrinking from public office, Mr. Chandler's extensive reading, keen insight and sound judgment gave his counsels much weight and influence, especially with advancing years, and probably no man in town was more widely known and respected. He was early sent as representative and state senator, and his name was often mentioned in connection with higher appointments, but his dislike for public life could not be overcome. An earnest republican and true patriot, he was ever ready to serve party and country with wise counsel and material aid, and his name and promises were looked upon as a tower of strength during the dark hours of the war.

Averse to parade and ostentation, simple in habits and taste, Mr. Chandler was exceedingly genial and sympathetic, with much playful humor and ready gift of conversation, discoursing pleasantly with all with whom he came in contact. Possessing strong individuality, he had his own views and preferences, but was very ready to help in all projects that met his approval. Many of the beautiful trees now adorning the village will help

perpetuate the memory of him who planted and watched over them so tenderly. Mr. Chandler was a firm friend of the Congregational church and society, ever ready to do his proportion of anything needed for their growth and benefit. His public spirited services in clearing the roads after the memorable March blizzard brought on or confirmed the rheumatic attack which ended his valuable life, May 13th, 1888. His son, Mr. Randolph Chandler, who for some years has practiced law in Putnam, succeeds to the family residence.

No living citizen of Thompson has rendered such substantial service to his mother state as Hon. Jeremiah Olney. Born near his present residence in this village, attending its public schools, Mr. Olney grew up to fill the ordinary stations of town life, keeping store, serving as constable, postmaster and representative. Appointed town agent during the war, his superior executive abilities were recognized, and he was appointed to serve as United States assessor, which office he filled with his accustomed energy and fidelity. A few years later he was nominated by the republican party for the office of school fund commissioner, but by some political arrangement the democratic incumbent was left in charge another term. During this interim Mr. Olney administered the affairs of the Thompson Bank, and served as town representative at the legislature. A keen-eyed reporter depicts him as "a dignified gentleman of the old school, spare in form, immaculate in dress, with a fine command of language, a strong sense of justice, and whose brave utterances command the most respectful attention." In 1880 he was elected to the responsible position of school fund commissioner, involving the care and handling of a most important public trust, demanding financial experience and sound judgment. Mr. Olney's administration of the school fund has been exceptionally strong and able. The fact of his unanimous appointment to a third term of service testifies to the respect and confidence accorded to him by all parties.

Mr. Charles E. Searls, the late popular secretary of state, resides in this village; a strong republican, chairman of the great Harrison mass meeting at Woodstock, a man whom his fellow-citizens delight to honor.

The popular favorite of a preceding generation, Mr. William S. Scarborough, has returned to his old home in Thompson, after prolonged residence at Cincinnati.

Our physician, Doctor Holbrook, represents a medical succession of more than seventy years, his father, Doctor Horatio Holbrook, entering upon practice in this village about 1816. He occupies the house built by D. R. Wickham nearly a hundred years ago.

The very oldest house in town is the residence of our present town clerk and representative, Mr. James N. Kingsbury, a native of Webster, but for over twenty years a resident of the village, filling many important offices.

The original Watson House is the pleasant home of our aged citizen, Judge Rawson, born in East Alstead, N. H., April 22d, 1802, served acceptably many years in the ministry, till obliged to relinquish active service by injuries received in a railroad accident. He removed to Thompson in 1853, where, with his son-in-law, Mr. Parker, he conducted a family school, and also performed much public service in occasional preaching, school visitation and as judge of probate.

Three venerable Ballard brothers, life-long residents of Thompson, reside within the district, whose united ages reach 256 years, viz.: Winthrop Hilton, 88; Deacon Valentine, 85; Hamilton, 83 years. The scriptural promise of length of days to men of peace, wisdom and rectitude is fulfilled in these "hoary heads."

Mr. James Munyan represents one of the oldest families in town, has carried on mercantile business, administered the post office, and served as selectman. Mr. L. K. Blackmar has also served faithfully in various offices. Messrs. Horace and Marvin D. Elliott represent an old family, remarkable for inherited industry and steadfastness. Mr. George S. Crosby was associated with his father in the management of the Crosby House. Mr. Horace Morse occupies the former home of Mr. Obadiah Stone. The oldest household by far in Thompson village is that still occupying the house built by Mr. Joseph Watson soon after his marriage, in 1791. Five of this family were living when the youngest had attained her 78th year. Mr. Noadiah Watson and Miss Katharine Watson still represent the family. The house built by Mr. William H. Mason was purchased after the decease of Mrs. Lydia (Watson) Mason by Major William S. Beebe.

The "History of Windham County," written and published by Miss Ellen D. Larned, has won a high place among local histories. About fourteen years were spent in collecting material and preparing this work. No pains were spared to ensure ac-

Ellen D. Larned

curacy and thoroughness, and the result justifies the cost. The citizens of Windham county have reason to be proud of their history. Miss Larned represents the family of William Larned, who removed to this section in 1712, and is the last of the name in town. Another Thompson authoress, Mrs. A. K. Dunning, represents the family of Doctor Dow, as the daughter of Mrs. Nancy (Dow) Ketchum. Mrs. Dunning has been very successful in religious works and stories, contributing notably to Sunday school literature.

Thompson hill is peculiarly favored in the character of its summer residents—its own children, not transient strangers. Its young men who went out from Thompson homes to engage in business come back to found new summer homes for their families. These village boys have made successful business men. One of the most prominent is Mr. John W. Doane of Chicago, a merchant prince, engaged largely in importing trade, president of Chicago's Board of Trade, prominent in the Pullman Car Company, and in many important business enterprises. Mr. Doane is very highly esteemed in his adopted city, and has won by his unaided exertions a most honorable place among the foremost business men of the day. A pleasant rural home in Thompson is occupied by his family half of the year.

Another representative of old Thompson families, Mr. Henry Elliott, starting out alone for the great city in early youth, has won a most honorable position and good name among the "solid men" of Brooklyn, N. Y. His near kinsmen, Messrs. John E. Jacobs and Jerome E. Bates, are successful business men, and like Messrs. Doane and Elliott, have summer homes in Thompson village. Another successful business man, now of Grand Rapids, Mich., Mr. Edgar Olney, has transformed the former residence of Judge Crosby into an idyllic summer resting place. The sons of Mr. Scarborough, Mrs. Erastus Knight, Mrs. George Shaw, Messrs. Bates and Marvin Elliott are welcomed among the usual summer sojourners. Mr. Andrew Mills has three sons in Boston, two of them connected with the administration of the Conservatory of Music, whose visits bring a welcome addition to the chorus of summer song.

Many sons of Thompson from all parts of the town have achieved success and distinction in varied fields. Norwich is indebted to Thompson for her veteran citizens, Mr. Franklin Nichols, president of the Thames National Bank, and Mr. Lucius

W. Carrol, president of the First National Bank. Few men in our country are more widely known or better serving their generation than Reverend Samuel W. Dike, D.D., prime leader in the anti-divorce movement, and secretary of the National Divorce Reform League. Mr. Dike belongs to another old Thompson family, still occupying the original homestead of their ancestor, James Dike. Reverend Joseph P. Bixby, grandson of the venerable Deacon Aaron Bixby, is a popular and successful pastor at Revere, Mass., and president of the Bible Conference Institute, established at Crescent Beach. Two grandsons of the venerated Elder Grow, Reverends Jerôme P. Bates and W. Elliott Bates, and Reverend James F. Hill, son of "Father James Hill," are honored and successful Baptist ministers. Another grandson of Elder Grow, Captain George W. Davis, performed most valuable service during the war, and built for himself an enduring monument by carrying forward and completing the National Memorial at Washington. Representative John Waite reports: "It was Capt. Davis who arranged and perfected all the elevating machinery that carried the stones one after another from the surface of the earth as they went up toward the sky. It was his skill and rare ingenuity that invented the machinery which was so vitally important as a most efficient agent in the the rapid and successful prosecution of the work. In the important matter of strengthening and perfecting the foundation of the monument the suggestions and assistance of Capt. Davis were invaluable."

Very valuable military service was also performed by another Thompson boy—John E. Tourtellotte; graduated from Brown University in 1856, studied law and commenced practice in Minnesota; joined the Fourth Minnesota Infantry regiment as captain in 1861, served in the same regiment as lieutenant-colonel to the close of the war, accompanied General Sherman on his march to the sea, breveted brigadier-general in 1865, resigned volunteer service, and appointed captain in the regular army in 1866, appointed colonel and aide-de-camp on the staff of General Sherman in 1871. While in this position he enjoyed the unique privilege of attendance upon the Princess Louise and Marquis of Lorne during their visit to the United States, as the accredited representative of the national government—a son of the sovereign people entertaining the daughter of the queen and empress.

Three sons of the late Thomas E. Graves, Esq., born on Thompson hill, were conspicuous during the war. Colonel Emmons E. Graves entered upon service in 1861 first lieutenant of of the Thirteenth Connecticut regiment, continued in service throughout the war, and had the honor of raising the Union flag upon the state capitol after the taking of Richmond. Lieutenant Frank H. Graves was the first Union officer to enter Fort Fisher. T. Thatcher Graves, returning from an interesting sojourn in Africa in 1863, entered at once upon service as volunteer aid to General B. F. Butler, received commission from President Lincoln as captain in the 114th Kentucky volunteers, detailed as aid to Major-General G. Weitzel, and served at the front until the close of the war; assisted in the occupation of Richmond, being the first Union officer to enter Libby Prison, and to take possession of the house vacated by Jefferson Davis; served under General Weitzel on the Rio Grande, with rank of brevet-major for two years, and was mustered out with the last volunteer officers in 1867. He pursued medical studies at Harvard, graduating at the head of his class in 1871, has practiced medicine at Lynn, Mass., Danielsonville, Conn., and Providence, R. I., with characteristic energy and promptness. Doctor Graves is pre-eminently an "emergency man," always ready for the occasion.

Daniel R. Larned, born in West Thompson village, engaged in volunteer service as captain; was promoted to rank of lieutenant-colonel for gallant conduct at seige of Knoxville; private secretary to General Burnside; serves as paymaster in regular army, with rank of major.

Joseph E. Gay, mining broker, an active republican and influential member of the Union League Club, New York, grew up on Thompson hill.

Isaac N. Mills, of Brandy hill, graduated with distinction at Harvard College, engaged successfully in the practice of law at Mount Vernon, N. Y., and soon received the honorable appointment of judge in the court of Westchester county, succeeding one of the great judges of the state.

"Westward the course of empire takes its way," but a goodly number of Thompsonians have found fame, wealth or competency in eastward cities. The ancient Converse family is well represented in Boston. James, son of Elisha Converse, began

his honorable life-work in that city a poor boy, thirteen years of age. In 1833, at the age of twenty-five, he aided in organizing the business firm of Field & Converse, so widely known in business circles. Remarkably successful in business, he has been still more eminent in works of mercy and beneficence, founding missions, building churches, strengthening the hands of fellow laborers. His brother, Elisha S. Converse, after engaging a short time in business on Thompson hill, removed to Boston in 1844, and since 1853 has served as treasurer and general manager of the Boston Rubber Shoe Company, having his residence in Malden. The stately and beautiful Converse Memorial Building, given to the citizens of Malden in 1885, for the use of a free public library and gallery of art, by Mr. and Mrs. Converse, in memory of their oldest son, will bear their names in grateful remembrance to later generations.

Year after year, upon the roll of Boston's legislative representatives and sterling men is found the name of Jacob A. Dresser —fourth in descent and name from the first white boy born in Thompson. Richard L. Gay, Ashley and William Mills were born in Thompson. Other business men in Providence, Worcester and various parts of the land emigrated from the same old town.

Space allows but a brief record of emigrants of preceding generations. All over the land they may be found; through the West and beyond the Rockies, descendants of those who in earlier years helped build up Vermont and New York. Carrying out into the world a certain stability and tenacity that enabled them to make their way amid hardships and toil, they have borne an important part in building up and developing the nation. Unable to follow them in all their various callings, we give a list of those only who have served as ministers:

Baptists.—John B. Ballard, born 1795; ordained 1823; "established Sunday schools in every town in North Carolina;" labored as missionary in New York city. Benjamin M. Hill, D. D., ordained in Stafford, September 23d, 1818; corresponding secretary of American Baptist Home Missionary Society. Lewis Seamans, preached at De Ruyter, N. Y., died November, 1826, aged 29 years. John Pratt, licensed to preach September 2d, 1822; professor of Greek and Latin in Granville College, Ohio. Austin Robbins, licensed to preach 1835; labored faithfully in Maine and mission fields.

Congregational.—Joseph, son of Reverend Noadiah Russel, settled in Princeton, Mass., but dismissed on account of ill health. Stephen, son of Elijah Crosby, a much beloved and useful pastor in Penn Yan, N. Y., died early. Henry Gleason settled in Durham, Conn.; died early, respected and lamented. Joseph T. Holmes, labored in the West. D. Nichols Coburn, settled in Ware, Mass. John Bowers, pastor in Wilbraham, Mass. Herbert A., son of William Reed, Esq., West Thompson, preached at Webster, Mass; removed to Michigan. William A., son of George Larned, Esq., settled over the church in Milbury, Mass.; obliged to relinguish preaching from bronchial trouble; taught in the Theological Seminary, Troy, N. Y.; appointed professor of rhetoric in Yale College in 1840; died February 3d, 1862—a thorough scholar, a brilliant speaker, sound in judgment, prompt in action, genial and attractive in private life.

Methodist.—Jefferson Hascall, born 1807; converted in early youth and exercising his gifts in exhortation. Mr. Hascall was distinguished for power and eloquence from the beginning of his ministry. His labors in his first pastorate resulted in the professed conversion of more than 150 persons. Independence and originality of thought, accompanied by fervid imagination and a magnetic delivery, gave him a high place among the many distinguished pulpit orators of the Methodist ranks. The mere announcement of his presence would fill the seats at any meeting. For more than twenty years he served as presiding elder, and twice represented New England in the General Conference. A man of strong faith and enthusiasm, but with simple, child-like spirit, he impressed himself strongly upon the generation. A popular hymn, written upon instant inspiration, will help commemorate his honored name:

> "My latest sun is sinking fast.
> My race is nearly run,
> My strongest trials now are past.
> My triumph is begun."

Doctor Hascall died February 13th, 1887. His brother, Reverend Squier Hascall, also served acceptably in the ministry.

The Thompson Grange is a new institution here. It was established about two years since, and now numbers about forty members, residing in different parts of the town. The present master is George N. Comins; steward, George Ballard.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

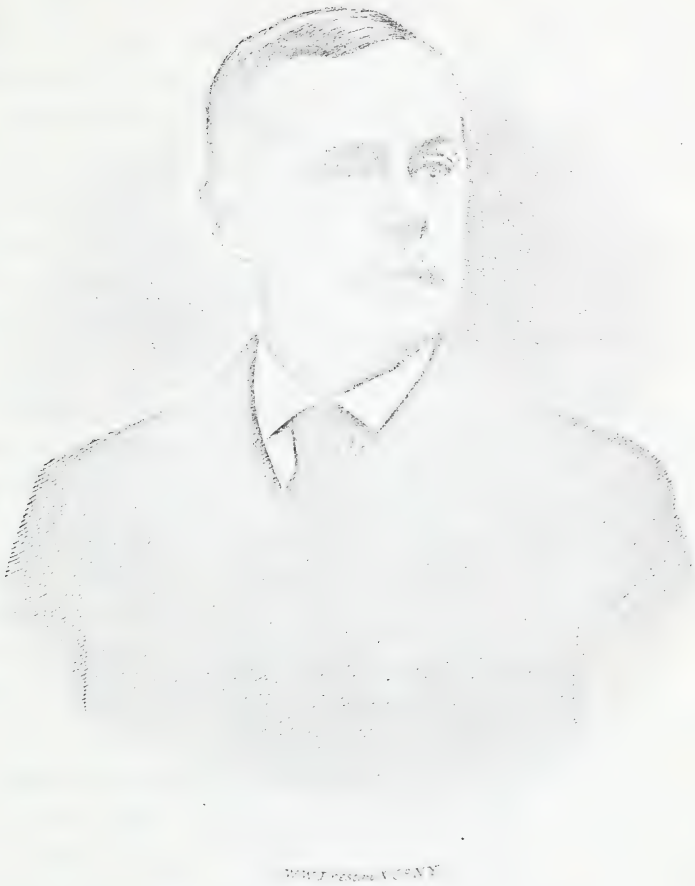
EDWARD ALDRICH.—Edward Aldrich, the grandfather of the subject of this biography, resided on the homestead farm in Thompson. His son Easick, a native of Douglas, spent the chief portion of his life in Thompson. He married Miriam Howland, of Burrillville, R. I., whose children were: Elizabeth, Edward, John, Viletta and Eddy. Edward Aldrich, the eldest of these sons, was born on the 25th of July, 1808, in Thompson, where he became a pupil of the neighboring school and afterward pursued his studies for one or more terms at Dudley, Mass. His education was, however, more the result of judicious reading and of habits of reflection, than of training under masters, and he may therefore be spoken of as self-taught. His father having purchased a farm in Thompson, Mr. Aldrich devoted his life to agriculture until 1870, when failing health compelled a cessation from active labor. He then retired to the residence in Woodstock which is the present home of Mrs. Aldrich. He was for many years engaged in the purchase and sale of stock, which transactions were conducted with much success.

An early whig and later a republican, he served many terms as selectman, was for a long period justice of the peace, and frequently represented his town in the legislature. During the late war he was a loyal and zealous supporter of the government. Mr. Aldrich was a man of excellent judgment and undoubted integrity. His services were therefore often sought as appraiser and arbitrator, and in the settlement of estates. He was one of the directors of the Thompson Bank. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Grosvenor Dale, and one of its building committee during the erection of the present edifice.

Mr. Aldrich was married February 22d, 1830, to Ardelia, daughter of Israel Comstock, of Union, Tolland county, Conn. Their only child, a son, Edward Harrison, married Harriet Gager, of Woodstock. Both died at an early age, leaving five children as follows: Edward Gurdon, Imogene Osborn, Isadore Estelle, wife of Randolph Chandler; Inez Harriet and Irene Fanny. With the exception of the last named daughter, all these children were taken by Mrs. Aldrich, on the death of their parents, reared and educated as her own. The death of Mr. Aldrich occurred at his home in Woodstock on the 12th of August, 1874.

Samuel Aldrich

ARTOTYPE · NIENSTADT



Jerome E. Bates

JEROME E. BATES.—Clement Bates, of Hertfordshire, England, aged 40, with his wife Ann, and their children, James, Clement, Rachel, Joseph and Benjamin, came to America in the ship "Elisabeth," April 6th, 1635, and settled in Hingham, Mass. Clement Bates died in Hingham, September 17th, 1671. His son Joseph, by wife Hester, was the father of Joseph, who was the father of eight children, settled in that part of Scituate now Hanover, in 1695, and died there July 9th, 1740. His son, Joseph, married Mary Bowker, who died a widow, July 30th, 1759. Jacob Bates, the ancestor of the Thompson branch of the Bates family, left Hingham as early as 1730, and after spending some years in Bellingham, Mass., settled in Thompson with his two sons, John and Elijah. His son, Elijah, spent his life as a farmer in his native town, and was the father of George, Tyler, Reuben, Moses, Elijah, William and Jacob. William Bates, born 1784, whose life was devoted to agricultural pursuits, married Sally, daughter of Edward Joslin, whose children were three sons—William, Walter and Winsor—and five daughters. Walter Bates, a manufacturer of furniture, was born in Thompson, January 31st, 1814, and still resides in his native town. He married Mary Jacobs, daughter of Thomas Elliott, of the same town, and became the father of eleven children: Jerome E., Lowell H., Mary J., William N., George F., Julia A., John L., Josephine W., Frank J., and two who died in infancy. The coat of arms presented to the early English branch of the Bates family was for valorous deeds performed during the Crusades.

Jerome E. Bates was born in Thompson, and began his business career as clerk in a country store in the same town. In October, 1863, he removed to Brooklyn, N. Y., and entered a retail boot and shoe store as clerk. In February, 1866, Mr. Bates established himself as a wholesale dealer in boots and shoes in New York, under the firm name of A. J. Bates & Co. This venture from small beginnings gradually increased in dimensions. Their business requires the room afforded by three stores, and has, from its first inception, steadily grown in importance and in its successful results. In 1884 the firm added the manufacture of boots and shoes in Webster, Mass. Mr. Bates is a director of the Clinton Bank of New York. He was married in 1873 to Eliza Whitmore, daughter of Woodruff L. Barnes, who was a son of Doctor Enos Barnes, a leading man and one of the early settlers of western New York. They have had five children, two of whom, Jessie W. and Edna B., died in youth. The survivors are Clara W., Leonard W. and Ethel E.

WILLIAM SULLY BEEBE was born at Ithaca, N. Y., in 1841, and educated with a view to his appointment to the Military Academy at West Point. He was one of the president's appointments there in 1858, on account of the services of his uncle and adopted father, Captain John C. Casey, himself a graduate of 1829, a member of the board of visitors of 1843, chief commissary on General Taylor's staff in Mexico, "whose zeal, intelligence and devotion to duty to the hour of his death, gave a peculiar claim and promise of faithful service to his young relative." He graduated in 1863, fifteenth in a class of twenty-five, was appointed a second lieutenant of ordnance and assigned to St. Louis Arsenal except during the time of Morgan's raid, when he served as volunteer aid with the forces opposing Morgan in Kentucky and Indiana. At his urgent request he was ordered to the field in the Department of the Gulf as assistant to its chief of ordnance. He applied for detail with the Red River Expedition then starting, and was appointed its chief ordnance officer, taking part in all the battles and actions of that campaign, acting as aid to the general commanding at the battle of Sabine Cross Roads, leading the supports of Nims' Battery in an attempt to recover it from the enemy, when his horse was killed under him inside the battery and he himself was wounded, for which service he was reported to headquarters by the chief of staff, an eye-witness of the occurrence. In the action of the same day, when the 19th Army Corps repulsed the confederate advance, he was sent to restore the extreme right of the federal line, in which effort he was successful, taking advantage of the confederate check to drive them in turn and capturing many prisoners, thus securing the first authentic intelligence of Taylor's reinforcement by Churchill's Missouri Column, for which he received the thanks of the 19th Corps commander, and was again commended to army headquarters. At the battle of Pleasant Hill he was commended by the general commanding the army and 19th Corps for his promptness and energy in leading the supports into action. At the evacuation of Alexandria, and the conflagration that took place during a gale, he, at the head of a detail of picked men, attempted to stay the fire by blowing up the buildings in its path. During this time the party again and again escaped destruction by premature explosion, in some cases the flakes from burning buildings falling into the receptacles for powder when they were about to be filled. For this he was thanked by the citizens of the town, headed by a brother-in-law of General Albert

William S. Rubi
Ext. Major U. S. Army

ANTOTYPE, E. DIERSTADT, N. Y.

Sidney Johnston, who pledged the good name of the town for the safety and release of the party in case of its capture by the confederate advance.

When the fleet under command of Admiral David D. Porter had been forced to lighten draught by landing their guns, the first intention had been to burst them, but on Lieutenant Beebe's stating that he was confident he could move them below the falls and reload them on the vessels to which they belonged, he was given the men to make the attempt and succeeded in saving all but five old model 32s, which he had to leave through lack of time. For this service Admiral Porter wrote as follows: "It was under Captain Beebe's orders that that most efficient ordnance party worked so laboriously and efficiently to save the guns of the fleet from falling into the hands of the enemy, and but for Captain Beebe's energy and perseverance the guns would have been so abandoned."

At the battle of Cane River Crossing, while the rear guard were being pressed by the enemy, and while the head of the column was held in check by some 8,000 confederates strongly entrenched, with artillery in position, in fact, when success was vital, he was directed by the new chief of staff, General Dwight, to join the column detached to dislodge this force and "on his arrival to signal what he thought the strength of the opposing force and to unremittingly urge the necessity for speed, in which action he would be sustained by his superiors." On his arrival, finding the confederate skirmish line on the advance instead of being pushed, he volunteered to lead the regiment in front of him in assault if suitably supported, which offer was at first declined with some asperity, but on its being renewed when the confederates showed signs of attacking in force, was promptly accepted. He led the assault, being the first man inside the confederate lines, from which they were driven in full retreat and for which their commander was relieved from his command and was tried by court martial. In this assault the attacking column lost some 200 men. On his return he was complimented by the column commander on the spot, and on arriving at headquarters was informed by the chief of staff, who sent him, that while waiting for his report by signal, he received the news that the enemy had been driven out of their works by an assault led by the staff officer he had sent. Lieutenant Beebe was brevetted captain in the U. S. Army to date from this battle as follows: "For gallant and meritorious services and for intrepidity and

daring and skill in handling men in the face of the enemy."

On the run down the Mississippi, when the headquarter boat was under fire at Tunica Bend, the battery was engaged at close quarters by a rifle placed on the boat's upper deck with such satisfactory results that although the boat itself was riddled, no lives were lost, and the transports following passed without receiving a shot. This gun was manned by members of the general staff, Lieutenant Sargent, Doctor Homans and others, under Lieutenant Beebe's direction.

When the expedition terminated Lieutenant Beebe received leave of absence with a view to his acceptance of a volunteer command, for which he was recommended by the general commanding and every corps commander in the department, as follows: "He has shown upon various occasions intrepidity and daring and skill in handling men in the face of the enemy that merit the highest applause, and should secure for him any position he may choose to seek. At Cane River Crossing he particularly distinguished himself by leading a regiment on a charge, most gallantly carrying a strong position held by the enemy. . . . You will find him fully competent to command a regiment or even a larger body of men."

General W. B. Franklin, commander of the 19th Army Corps, said: "I am sure that a regiment under his command cannot fail to distinguish itself, and I cordially endorse his application." Owing to the appearance of smallpox on the transport on which he sailed and the consequent quarantine, Lieutenant Beebe lost the opportunity he had in view, and as he found that political influence would be required in any new direction, something he had neither time nor inclination to seek, he returned to his station at New Orleans, where he found that without his knowledge an order had been issued assigning him to duty on the staff of General Gordon Granger, then about to undertake the expedition for the capture of Forts Gaines and Morgan, the outer defenses of Mobile bay. Against General Granger's friendly contention he had this order recalled, preferring the position of chief of ordnance of the expedition to even such a complimentary position as that offered him. During the siege of Fort Morgan the method of supply for the batteries by wagon along the beach being tedious, he was asked by his chief if he thought he could run a light draught steamer captured from the enemy, under cover of darkness and relying on the fire of our sharpshooters to

prevent its being sunk, up to the mortar batteries, which were within a few hundred yards of the fort, with a deck load of powder and shell. This he undertook to do the next morning at daylight, and when about to land his cargo, saw in the dusk the flag of truce just sent out with a view to the surrender of the fort. He accordingly ran by the batteries and over the torpedo ground, trusting to his light draught, and tied up at the fort wharf. Owing to this circumstance and the politeness of the confederate ordnance officer, who came down to the end of the wharf and invited him to make the tour of the fort, he was the first person inside the works from the federal side, which was then on fire and was surrendered that day at noon. He was, on General Granger's nomination, brevetted major, to date from the capture of the fort, "for gallant and meritorious services at the siege of Fort Morgan."

A few months later the expedition under command of General E. R. S. Canby, for the reduction of Mobile and its outlying defenses, Forts Blakely, Huger and Tracy, and Spanish Fort, was undertaken, when Major Beebe was, at his own request, ordered to duty as its chief ordnance officer, his especial charge being an ordnance and siege train that was drilled for the purpose, reviewed by the commanding general and received his written commendation. While the troops were being transferred across the bay after the outlying defenses and the city itself surrendered, Major Beebe took the yawl of one of his transports, and with her captain and mate as crew, a confederate pilot pressed into the service, and Colonel Palfrey, chief engineer, as fellow-passenger, ran across the obstructions and torpedo ground and put up the first flag in the city of Mobile, on the spire of the Episcopal church, the confederate cavalry raiding the streets while they were thus engaged, and the party only escaping capture by the confederates being so sharply pressed by our infantry as not to have time to dismount.

Major Beebe was one of a half dozen officers sent to Meridian, Miss., to receive the surrender of General Dick Taylor's army and supplies, after which, the war being over, he was sent to command Mount Vernon Arsenal, Ala., from there to Frankford Arsenal, Pa., where in securing the arrest of a night expedition of river thieves he, with two enlisted men, captured their whole outfit, a sloop and yawl, one of the party, and were forced to kill another who fired the first shot and died pistol in hand. The men with him were commended in post orders.

From Frankford he was ordered to Fort Monroe, and during an explosion that took place in an ammunition house in one of the redoubts, a building some twenty feet square, in which, "when the explosion took place there were some twenty barrels of powder" and five men, two of whom were mortally wounded and three killed, "the powder and wounded were safely gotten out of the way by Major W. S. Beebe and Richard Oldfield, William Hayward, James Cooney and Private Carter, Company A, Third Artillery. The conduct of Major Beebe was highly commendable in his efforts to save life and property, as he exposed himself to more than ordinary danger in doing so."

From Fort Monroe he was ordered to Watervliet Arsenal, Troy, N. Y., and from there to Alleghany Arsenal, Pittsburgh, Pa., and finally to Rock Island, Ill., from which place he resigned, to take "effect at the end of the year as an unusual mark of favor." Previous to his resignation Major Beebe had gone abroad with a circular from the State Department, worded as follows: "That the Department took peculiar pleasure in commending him as one who had conducted himself with distinguished ability and gallantry in the field, during the late Civil War," and "that he came highly commended by General Grant, General Meade and General Dyer, Chief of his Corps."

Before and since his resignation Major Beebe has been a close student of American mythology, especially in its relations to European and Asiatic religions, and is firmly of the opinion that common religious property is due altogether to American loans. He upholds the following theory, which in the main is his own:

I. A great philosophical culte once occupied all the Americas, originating in Peru.

II. The backbone of this culte was a theory of number founded on recurrence, which had early attracted the attention of the aborigines, and that this theory of number is founded in fact.

III. That the tablets found at Davenport, Ia., and Piqua, Ohio, are authentic, and that he not only has read them but can restore missing portions.

IV. The phonetic values of these pictographs are Shemitic, including many well-known proper names, the legends, the same as the Accadian on which the Genesis Cycle is founded, and that they had their origin here, in short, are American.

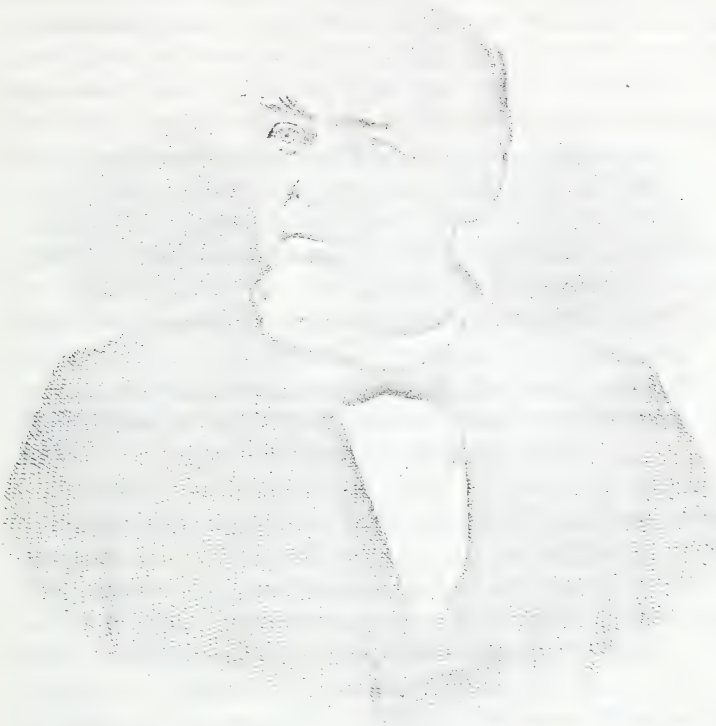
To prove these statements he has collected a mass of illustration, a very large part of which is entirely new, and now has his work well under way, doing all the labor of text, illustration, and print himself.

LUCIUS BRIGGS was born in Coventry, R. I., December 21st, 1825. He is the son of Wanton and Mary Tift Briggs, of Coventry, R. I. Wanton Briggs was the son of Jonathan Briggs, also of Coventry, who served in the revolutionary army from the beginning to the end of the war, taking part in many important, hard fought battles, and received an honorable discharge signed by General Washington himself. Mary Tift Briggs was the daughter of Solomon Tift, of Groton, Conn. He served the cause of his country during the revolutionary period on the ocean. He was taken prisoner and confined for months in the hulk known as the old Jersey prison ship, in New York harbor. The horrors endured by the prisoners is a matter of history.

Wanton Briggs was a farmer of Coventry, having a family of seven sons and three daughters. Cotton manufactories were then springing up all over New England, and particularly in Rhode Island, and he decided to leave his farm and locate in a factory village. He selected the village owned by the late Governor Harris in Coventry, and there he remained many years, bringing up his children to habits of industry, and a knowledge of the business three of them have so successfully followed. The subject of this sketch took his place in the mill as soon as his age permitted, and with only intervals to attend the village school, and one year in Smithville Seminary, of Smithville, R. I., followed the factory bell until nineteen years old, becoming proficient in all the branches of cotton manufacturing. He then took two years apprenticeship in building cotton machinery, followed by two years of repairing machinery in Governor Harris' mill. The gold fever was now taking many young men to California, and Mr. Briggs and his brother, Wanton, Jr., decided to try their fortunes there. They sailed from Warren, R. I., in the ship "Hopewell," January 28th, 1849, and reached San Francisco August 9th. They spent two years in mining, teaming and trade, when Lucius decided to return, while his brother remained some years longer. Soon after his return, Mr. Briggs, in accordance with a previous engagement, married Harriet Taylor Atwood, of Warwick, R. I. Four children were born to them, two sons and two daughters. A boy

and a girl died in infancy, leaving Charles W. Briggs, now in business in New York, and Evelyn Clara Cranska, wife of Floyd Cranska, a successful manufacturer of fine combed yarns, of Moosup, Conn. Soon after his return from California and marriage, Mr. Briggs went to Masonville, Thompson, Conn., to repair the machinery in the lower or wooden mill belonging to the Masonville Company. The machinery had become considerably worn, and the engagement of Mr. Briggs was expected to be temporary, only long enough to put it in order. But he liked the place, and at the solicitation of his employers, he remained, and in the following spring took charge of all repairs in the company's three mills. So well pleased were the Masonville Company with Mr. Briggs' services that a year later he was made superintendent of the mills, and local agent of all the company's business and interests in the village. At this time William Mason of Thompson, owned a majority interest in the Masonville Company, and the late Hon. William Grosvenor of Providence, R. I., who married a niece of Mr. Mason, was agent, but with no direct interest in the company. In less than a year after Mr. Briggs became superintendent Doctor Grosvenor bought the entire interest of Mr. Mason, except one-sixteenth, which was purchased by Mr. Briggs. Doctor Grosvenor and his sons soon after bought all remaining interests except the sixteenth of Mr. Briggs.

These purchases marked an era in the history of the Masonville Company, and of the individuals interested. The property now consisted of three small mills, with less than 8,000 spindles and 189 looms. Everything about the mills, except the machinery in the two upper ones, was old fashioned and out of date. The water wheels were of wood and placed under the mills. The canals leading water to the wheels were narrow and insufficient. The races taking it away were shallow, losing a good percentage of the power of the water in getting to and from the wheels. But the situation for manufacturing was favorable, and while the time for such small mills and such equipments was rapidly passing away, the new owners of Masonville bought more with reference to the future and what they could make of the property than for the present and what it then was. Quietly but rapidly, as prudence permitted, the property began to be modernized. Dams were rebuilt, canals and waterways were widened and deepened. The wood water



Lucius Briggs

wheels gave place to those of iron and bronze, placed outside of the mills. The two upper mills were built together, making one mill of 11,000 spindles, in place of two of 5,000. Later the wood mill at the lower fall was moved and changed to tenements, and a nice brick structure with 20,000 spindles of the very best patterns took the place of the 2,700 worn out ones, and the wood mill. This brought the 8,000 spindles and three mills to 31,000 spindles and two mills, and completed for the present the programme as far as that village was concerned. The village next above, called Fisherville, had a mill of 5,000 spindles and a large fall of water, less than half of which was developed. In 1864 Mr. Grosvenor and Mr. Briggs purchased the property and set about plans for its utmost development. Further water rights were secured, and the pond enlarged from about 10 acres to 84, and the fall of water increased from 11 feet to 26½. Immense embankments were raised for long distances, and at the approaches of the wheel pits the water was carried above grade, held in by high and heavy retaining walls.

An immense factory was built of brick, of splendid architectural designs, capable of holding easily 60,000 spindles and ample preparation. This mill was put in operation in 1872, bringing the number of spindles owned and operated by the company to about 96,000. In the meantime, and while these great changes were in progress, the names of "Fisherville" and "Masonville" had given place to "Grosvenor Dale" for the whole valley, including an unoccupied privilege between Masonville and Mechanicsville, and the young sons of Doctor Grosvenor, William and James, had completed collegiate courses and become partners in the company, and occupied important positions, William as an assistant to his father, and James as agent for the sale of the company's products in New York.

The above seems more the history of a company than the individual, but it is impossible to write the history of one without the other. From the day of the new ownership to the close of his connection with the property in 1883, Mr. Briggs had full charge of manufacturing and building, and was the author of all plans and projects for developments and enlargements, and purchased all machinery and material of every kind, made all contracts for building, including mills, warehouses, and several hundred tenements for help employed in the mills. Doctor Grosvenor, while not a practical manufacturer, was one of the

best business men ever raised in New England. With a judgment that almost never erred, with an enterprise that was tempered with caution, but which never hesitated or turned back from the greatest undertakings when his judgment had once approved them, his great means and resources made almost any undertaking possible. Mr. Briggs, from the moment he took the management of the mills, gave his whole time and abilities to the conducting of the business and the development of the property. Year after year of intense and close application gradually impaired his health, and soon after the completion of the large mill at North Grosvenor Dale this became so marked that his physician ordered him abroad, and December 15th, 1875, with his daughter Evelyn for a companion, he sailed from New York for Liverpool, and spent six months in travel in England, France, Italy, and the East, visiting Alexandria, Cairo, and other points in Egypt, Constantinople and minor cities in Turkey, the Ionian Islands, Athens and the various interesting localities in Greece. He returned in the following summer, much improved in health.

In 1883 it seemed necessary for the company to organize as a corporation. While agreeing fully as to the propriety of the change, Mr. Briggs did not wish to join the corporation, and an amicable arrangement was made by which he transferred his interest to Mr. Grosvenor. He is now (1889) half owner and manager of the Glasgo Yarn Mills, of Glasgo, Conn., a stockholder and director in the Norwich Bleach & Dye Works, an owner and director in the Glasgo Thread Company, of Worcester, Mass. He is also a large holder of the stock of the Ponemah Mills, near Norwich, Conn., one of the largest and finest plants for manufacturing fine cotton goods in America, if not in the world. For some years before leaving Grosvenor Dale Mr. Briggs was president of the flourishing Savings Bank of Thompson. In politics he has always been a republican. He has occupied seats in the house of representatives and the senate of Connecticut. During Mr. Briggs' absence in Europe, his son, C. W. Briggs, occupied his place as superintendent of the mills at Grosvenor Dale and North Grosvenor Dale, with credit to himself and the satisfaction of the company. Mrs. Briggs died in 1886.

James W. and Elisha S. Converse.—The descent of the Converse family, of Thompson, from Roger de Coigneries, one of the trusted chieftains of William the Conqueror, has been else-

J. Monroe

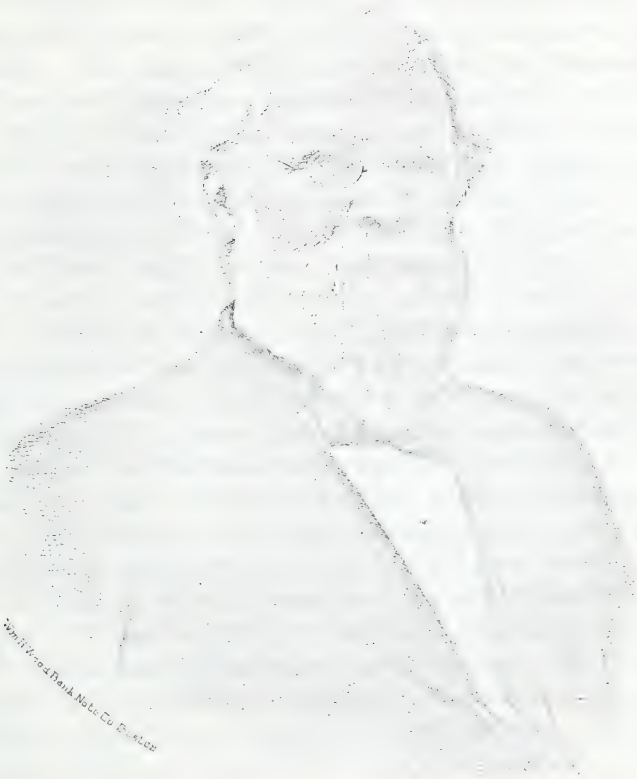
where given in this volume, and need not be repeated here. The first member of the family to emigrate from England to America was Deacon Edward Convers, who settled in Woburn, Mass. His grandson, Samuel Convers, in 1710 removed to Thompson parish, then Killingly, and became the progenitor of all branches of the family who bear the name, in Thompson. In the line of descent was Edward Convers, whose son Jonathan was the father of Deacon Jonathan Converse (the orthography of the name having been at this time changed), who resided in Thompson. His son, Elisha Converse, born in 1786, married in 1807 Betsey, daughter of Deacon James Wheaton, of the same town. Their sons, James W. and Elisha Slade Converse, are the subjects of this biography.

James W. Converse was born in Thompson, Windham county, Conn., January 11th, 1808, and in early youth removed with his parents successively to Woodstock, in the same county, to Dover and Needham, Mass. In 1821, while yet a mere lad, he started for Boston, a poor boy, and there began an eventful, useful and very successful career. He obtained employment with his uncles, Joseph and Benjamin Converse, who afterward assisted him to begin business in the Boylston Market. In 1832 he formed a co-partnership with William Hardwick, for the purpose of conducting the boot, shoe and leather business in Boston. One year later he joined Isaac Field in the hide and leather trade. Later he became a partner of John Field, and the firm of Field & Converse ranked as one of the leading and most reliable concerns in this line of business, enjoying excellent credit during all the panics that occurred throughout a period of thirty-seven years. In 1870 Mr. Converse retired from business, and has since been absorbed in his railroad, banking, real estate and other commercial schemes. In 1836 he aided in the organization of the old Mechanics' Bank of Boston, was made a director, and in 1847 its president, which office he held until January, 1888, when he retired, after having served the bank more than fifty years. Mr. Converse has for more than sixty years been an exemplary working member of the Baptist church, and for fifty years has served in various churches as deacon. He has been active in personal labors, liberal in charities and a perpetual inspiration to the Christian men around him. Mr. Converse married, September 5th, 1833, Emeline, daughter of Nathan Coolidge, of Boston. Their children are: James W.

(deceased), Costello Coolidge and Emma Maria, wife of Isaac W. Chick, of Boston.

Elisha Slade Converse, the third son of Elisha and Betsey (Wheaton) Converse, was born in Needham, Mass., July 28th, 1820. When he was four years of age his parents removed to Woodstock, Conn. Spending his childhood there, under the wholesome restraint and kindly influences of New England rural life, he was trained in habits of industry and integrity, and in the essentials of an English education. In his thirteenth year he was sent to Boston, that he might have the advantage of the superior schools. He remained there until sixteen years of age, when he returned home.

During the next three years he learned the trade of a clothier, and when nineteen years old he engaged in that business on his own account in the village of Thompson, continuing there five years. In 1844 he again went to Boston, where he made a change to the wholesale shoe and leather trade. The business was new to him, but he soon familiarized himself with its details, and during his connection with it the reputation and success of the firm became well established. In 1847 he removed his place of residence to Stoneham, Mass., and in 1849 to Malden, where he has ever since resided. In 1853 he accepted the office of treasurer of the Malden Manufacturing Company. Early in 1855 this company's corporate name was changed to that of the "Boston Rubber Shoe Company," when, by the earnest solicitation of the directors, he was induced to relinquish his previous business, and, in addition to the office of treasurer, to assume that of buying and selling agent. These offices he has held to the present time, and the direction and control of all operations, both at the factories and stores of this immense concern, have been unreservedly intrusted to his care. He is president of the First National Bank of Malden, president of the Boston Belting Company and of the Rubber Manufacturers' Mutual Insurance Company, director of the Revere Rubber Company and of the Exchange National Bank of Boston, trustee of the Five Cent Savings Bank and a member of the board of trustees of Wellesley College. He has served the commonwealth two years (1878-79) in the house of representatives and two years (1880-81) in the senate. In 1882, when Malden had been incorporated as a city, he was, by universal acclaim, awarded the honor of serving as its first mayor.



Rob. J. Converse

Mr. Converse is a successful business man, active in thought, untiring in work and conservative in method. He was, on the 4th of September, 1843, married to Mary D. Edmunds, daughter of Captain Hosea and Ursula Edmunds, of Thompson. Their children are: Frank Eugene (deceased), Mary Ida (wife of Costello C. Converse), Harry Elisha and Frances Eugenia.

In all of Mr. Converse's life history he has had a true helpmate in his wife. Her kind, sympathizing nature, her bountiful hospitality, her good judgment and her true womanly qualities have been to him of inestimable value. The names of Mr. and Mrs. Converse are inseparable in the history of Malden, and the mother's love and woman's generosity, no less than the father's love and his public spirit, have made for themselves a name which will last long after they have passed to their reward.

The church connections of Mr. Converse are with the First Baptist society of Malden. His private benefactions are as judiciously placed as his public bequests are wisely bestowed.

While he has done much for the public good in many ways, his greatest gift has been that of the Converse Memorial Building, in which the Malden Public Library has its home. This exquisite gift, which is one of the finest library buildings in the country, and which its talented designer, the late Henry H. Richardson, considered as one of his greatest works in many qualities, is in every way worthy of the noble uses to which it is dedicated. It was built by Mr. and Mrs. Converse as a memorial of their eldest son, whose tragic death caused a thrill of pity and sympathy throughout the community; and it is characteristic of the donors, who are ever one in good works, that their wish to preserve his memory bore the fruitage of a great public benefaction.

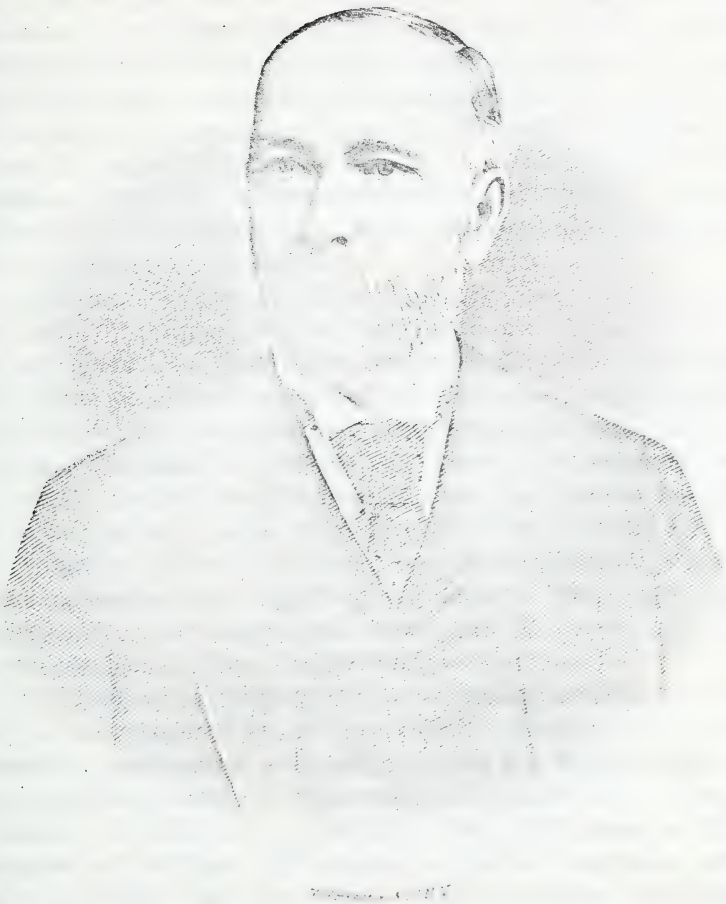
This building, when completed, was given to the trustees of the Malden Public Library, "for the benefit of the inhabitants of the city of Malden." It is of brown sandstone from the Longmeadow quarries, and is in the Romanesque style, in which Mr. Richardson did so much noble and effective work. It is dependent upon form and proportion for its beauty, rather than upon exaggerated details and startling effects. Ornament it has, but its mouldings and graceful carvings were placed by the hand of an artist as if they grew from necessity in their places. There is nothing obtrusive in its features, nor is there a straining for effect; but it is picturesque in an eminent degree, and its pic-

turesqueness, in all its parts, is a natural result of a perfect adaptability to structural necessity, and so fulfils a high artistic law.

Besides the library room and a large and convenient reading room, the building contains a noble room for an art gallery, which is filled with pictures which are valuable in themselves, and more valuable as a means of education and as promoters of public taste. Statues and pictures are in all parts of the building. In works of art Mr. and Mrs. Converse have been liberal givers, and their gifts in books for the library, and in funds for its improvement and maintenance have been unstinted and frequent. The memorial which they have raised will never decay, nor grow old, for it is a benefaction which has in it the spirit of eternal youth.

HENRY ELLIOTT.—The progenitor of the Elliott family in Thompson was Francis Elliott, a mariner, who settled in Salem, Mass., in 1686, and the same year married Abigail, daughter of John Nichols. Their son Thomas, who early in life resided at Middletown, in the same state, in 1723 married Lucy Flint. With his son Joseph he came to Thompson parish in 1749. Joseph Elliott was a revolutionary soldier, and commanded a company at the battle of Bunker Hill. He married Jesusha Bury, whose son Thomas was born in 1759 and died in 1843. He married Chloe, daughter of Issacher Bates, and had children: Aaron, Ebenezer, Ira, Thomas, and a daughter, Catherine. Thomas of this number was born in Thompson, December 24th, 1793, and died February 24th, 1872. He was three times married, the second union being with Polly Dexter, of Killingly. Their children were: Sally, Horace, Marvin D., Henry and Jane E., who died in 1859.

Henry Elliott was born July 12th, 1831, in Thompson, and received such an education as the public schools of the town afforded, supplemented by a limited period at Dudley, Mass. The routine of a farmer's life not being in accord with his energetic temperament, at sixteen he sought a clerkship in Woodstock, and was for two years thus employed. The year 1850 found the young man *en route* for New York city, determined by his own inherent force and industry to open the road to success and all the opportunities which follow in its train. He secured a position in a jobbing rubber boot and shoe house, where the first six months of service were given without remuneration. His



H. Emry Elliott

quickness of perception and ceaseless energy speedily made themselves felt, and steady promotion was the result. At the expiration of the fourth year he was admitted to a partnership with the proviso, exacted by him, that the management of the business should rest exclusively with him. This relation was maintained until 1858, when Mr. Elliott purchased the remaining interest and continued the business as above. He had meanwhile become a prominent figure in the field of rubber goods, where his sagacity and shrewdness as a buyer, and skill as a salesman, had made his presence felt in the market. In matters connected with finance he was also regarded as evincing exceptional judgment and ability.

Mr. Elliott was appointed the agent in New York for three of the most important rubber boot and shoe companies in the United States, and added this responsibility to the business he had before conducted with marked success. In 1873 the firm of Wallace & Elliott was formed, embracing the large leather boot and shoe business of his brother-in-law, J. T. Whitehouse, and his own. To this firm his nephew, Mr. J. E. Jacobs, was admitted as a partner under the title of Wallace, Elliott & Co., and subsequently his son Clinton, thus establishing a house now ranking among the largest in the trade. They are extensive manufacturers of boots and shoes and the owners of several large factories in New England and elsewhere.

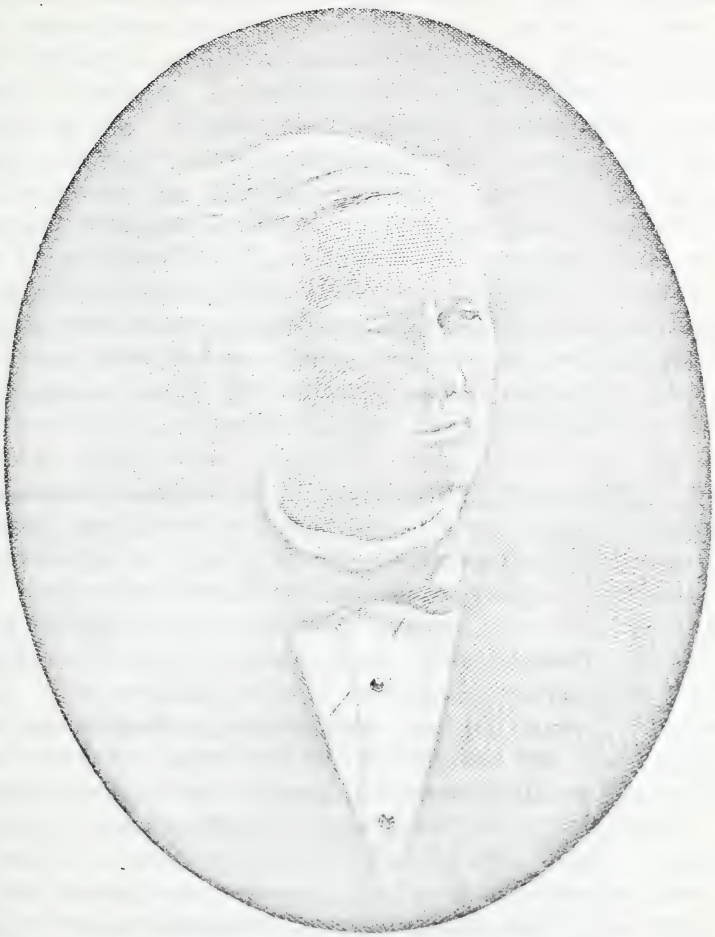
Mr. Elliott is in his political principles an earnest republican. He has had occasion to decline distinctive honors of a political character, preferring to be simply a worker while others enjoy the dignities of office. In his religious belief he is a Congregationalist. Mr. Elliott, on the 2d of April, 1857, married Mary A., daughter of William Whitehouse, of New Hampshire, then residing in Brooklyn, New York. Their children are: Harry A. and Osborn, deceased; Augusta, Clinton and Dexter. Mr. Elliott, since his removal from Thompson, has resided in the city of Brooklyn, New York, returning to his former home, where he has a residence, to spend the summer months.

Doctor William Grosvenor, the subject of this biography, was a descendant in the fifth generation from the original purchaser of the Mashamoquet tract. He was the son of Doctor Robert Grosvenor, and was born in Killingly, Conn., April 30th, 1810. He attended the best academies of his native state, and his father, needing his early assistance in the practice of his profession,

sent him first to the Chemical Laboratory of Yale College, and afterward to Philadelphia, where, for three years, he had special advantages in connection with the hospitals of the city, and attended the lectures of the Jefferson Medical School, at which he received the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1830. He immediately became associated with his father in medical practice, and in this connection he continued for four years, when he moved to Providence, and there he spent the remainder of his life.

The event which occasioned this change of residence, and thus gave a new direction to the whole course of his life, was his marriage to Miss Rosa Anne Mason, daughter of the Hon. James Brown Mason, of Providence. Her parents had died in her childhood, and Miss Mason was the ward of her uncle, Mr. Amasa Mason, of this city. Doctor Grosvenor came to Providence with the intention of continuing the practice of his profession, but finding himself in the midst of associations and interests connected with business, he soon abandoned his purpose, and engaged in business as a wholesale druggist, with Mr. Edward Chace, the copartnership bearing the name of Grosvenor & Chace. At the end of five years the copartnership was dissolved. He then embarked in the business of "stocking" calico printers with the cloth which they used, and in this business he continued till 1860. In 1848 he had been appointed to act in the place of Mr. Amasa Mason, who had become disabled by ill health, in the management of the mills at Masonville, in Thompson, Conn., and on the death of Mr. Mason in 1852 he was made the administrator of his estate, of which one-fourth part became the property of Mrs. Grosvenor. He also succeeded to the entire management of the manufacturing property of the Masonville Company, of which Mr. William H. Mason then owned one-half, the other half being the property of his wife and her sister, Mrs. Eaton.

He thus entered upon his career as a cotton manufacturer, a career which he pursued to the end of his life, with rare judgment, with singular assiduity, and with brilliant success. His earlier enterprises of business, especially that connected with printing cloths, had been successful, and with the capital thus acquired he soon purchased all the shares of the Masonville Mills, except those belonging to Mrs. Grosvenor. These latter were, in 1868, bought by his two sons. An interest of one-sixteenth was also sold, in 1860, to Mr. Lucius Briggs, the resident



Wm. Grosvenor

manager of the mills, which he retained till 1883. The plant was soon greatly enlarged, old mills were brought together by new connections, new mills were erected, the water power more fully developed, and the productive capacity of the whole was greatly increased. In 1864 Doctor Grosvenor bought what was known as the "Fisherville Property," and certain adjoining lands to the north of it, extending to Wilsonville, for the prospective advantages which they offered. In 1866 the Masonville Company changed its name to Grosvenor Dale Company, its village being from that time known as Grosvenor Dale, and the Fisherville Company took the name of North Grosvenor Dale Company, with a corresponding change in the name of its village. Two years later the two companies were united, and now bear the common name of Grosvenor Dale Company. New mills have been built and great changes have been made in the condition of both these properties. Additional water power has been acquired and steam power has been superadded. A large reservoir has been created, with dykes and embankments of great solidity and strength, and tenements have been constructed for the operatives employed by the company. The entire property now bearing its name extends over a tract of four miles in length in the valley of the French river, a branch of the Quinebaug. The original mills of which he became the owner in 1854 then contained 7,500 spindles and 180 looms. For the past three years they have had 88,176 spindles and 2,357 looms, the spindles having been reduced in number without diminution of product, in consequence of improvements in their make.

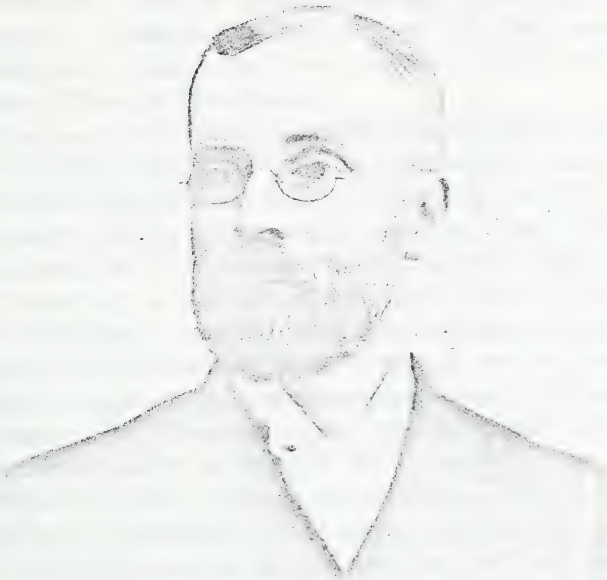
From his settlement in Providence in 1837, Doctor Grosvenor's life had been almost constantly devoted to active business. The change from professional pursuits to the pursuits of trade is a critical event in the life of any man. With him it had led to almost uninterrupted success. He began his new occupation by giving constant attention to its daily demands, and by making himself master of the principles and methods by which it was to be conducted. In doing this his professional experience may not have been without its advantages. It had formed in him the habit of careful attention to the details involved in the work in which he was engaged, and had taught him to guard against surprises in the condition of markets and the movements of trade. It may thus have done its part to secure the success which

he continued to have for the period of forty years almost without drawback or interruption.

His first period of leisure was taken in the year 1860, when, for the benefit of Mrs. Grosvenor's health, he accompanied her with his elder children on a visit to Europe. The absence was greatly beneficial to them all, and would have been prolonged had it not been for the anxieties and sorrows occasioned by the civil war, which began in the following year. The daily tidings of battle and slaughter, and the spectacle of the two great sections of the republic at war with each other, were doubly distressing to loyal citizens away from their country. He came home early in 1862, as did so many others from every part of the world, to do whatever might be in his power in the service of the country, and especially to be as near as possible to the exciting and distressing scenes which were then engrossing public attention.

On his return he immediately connected himself with the patriotic services which were already in progress in Rhode Island. In the following year he was chosen a senator from the town of North Providence, where he had resided since 1849, and he immediately engaged in all the movements that depended in any way on the action of the legislature. He was made a member of the legislative committee on finance, and his careful judgment and well-known determination as a citizen of large resources, made him an authority in the financial questions before that body. The whole energy and strength of the state were then enlisted in the service of the country. Taxes were levied in amounts beyond all precedent, and Rhode Island was ready to make every exertion and every sacrifice which the crisis might demand. In promoting all these movements the senator from North Providence was actively engaged during his period of service.

In 1866 he was again chosen to the senate. The war was now ended and the legislature of the state was occupied with new questions, the chief of which were how to maintain the public credit and pay the public debts, which had swollen to large proportions. In addition to these matters of finance were questions as to how the legislature could best provide for those who had been disabled in the war, and how it could best honor the memories of those who had fallen in its battles. In the deliberations and discussions relating to these he took a very active part, and



F M Messenger

ARTOTYPE, E. BIERSTADT, N. Y.

did much in shaping the measures that were adopted. He was a member not only of the finance committee, but also of the joint committee of both houses appointed to select a suitable site for "a monument to the memory of the officers and men from Rhode Island, either in the army or the navy of the United States, who lost their lives in the service of the United States during the late rebellion," and to procure designs and estimates for the monument. It was through the agency of this committee that the "Soldiers' Monument" was erected, which now stands in Exchange Place in Providence.

As has been mentioned, he became a resident of North Providence in 1849, having at that time built as the home of his family an attractive mansion, on a farm belonging to Mrs. Grosvenor, not far north of the city line and now contained within it. In 1872 he removed to the house which he had bought on Prospect street, in which he passed the remaining years of his life. Long before this date he had given up the immediate care of the large business of the Grosvenor Dale Company to his two sons, Mr. William Grosvenor, Jr., the managing agent in Providence, and Mr. James B. M. Grosvenor, the selling agent in New York. Soon after his early settlement in Providence he had become connected with the congregation of Grace Church. He was for several years a member of its vestry, and was also an active and most helpful member of the committee for the erection of its beautiful and costly house of worship on Westminster street. He was fond of society and dispensed a generous hospitality, and thus kept alive his interest in the new generations which were taking the place of that to which he belonged. His constitution was always robust, and at the age of seventy-eight years he retained his powers, both of body and mind, almost unimpaired. His death took place with very slight premonition, August 10th, 1888, at Maplewood, New Hampshire, whither he had gone for a brief season of summer recreation. It was occasioned by an acute and sudden affection of the heart and the lungs.

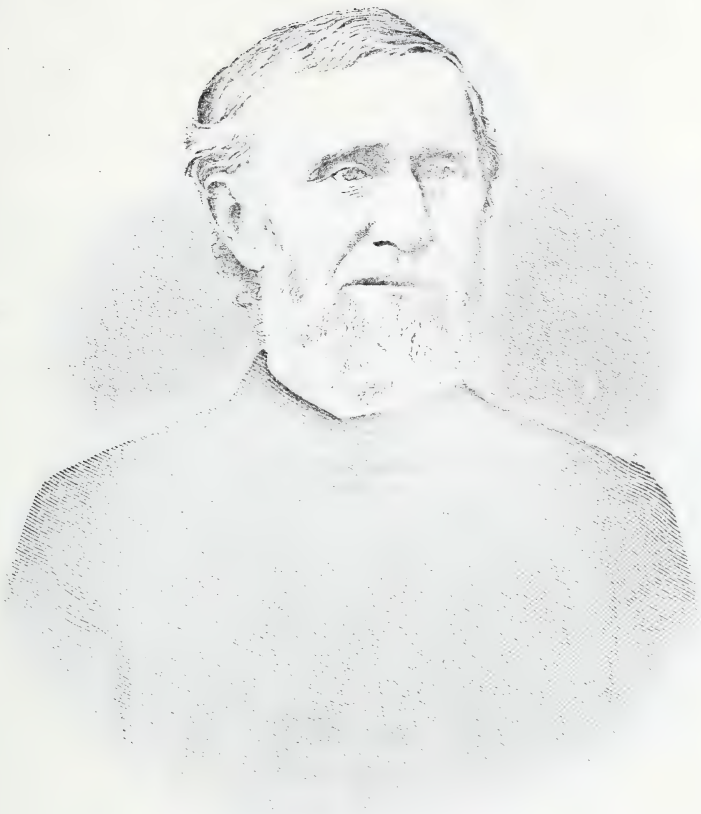
This sketch was prepared for the proceedings of the Rhode Island Historical Society, published in 1889.

Frank M. Messenger.—Samuel Messenger, the grandfather of Frank M. Messenger, married Lavina Blake, of Wrentham, Massachusetts. Their children were five sons and five daughters, of whom Silas was born in Stoddard, New Hampshire, and

during his active life was both a farmer and a house carpenter in his native place. He married Arvilla, daughter of Isaac Copeland, of the same town. Their children were: Mary, Alma, Erskine, Addison, Edson Winslow, Henry E., George B., Alice C., Frank M. and Helen A., of whom three are deceased—Addison, whose death occurred while a soldier in the late war; George B., who died in childhood, and Helen A., at the age of nine years.

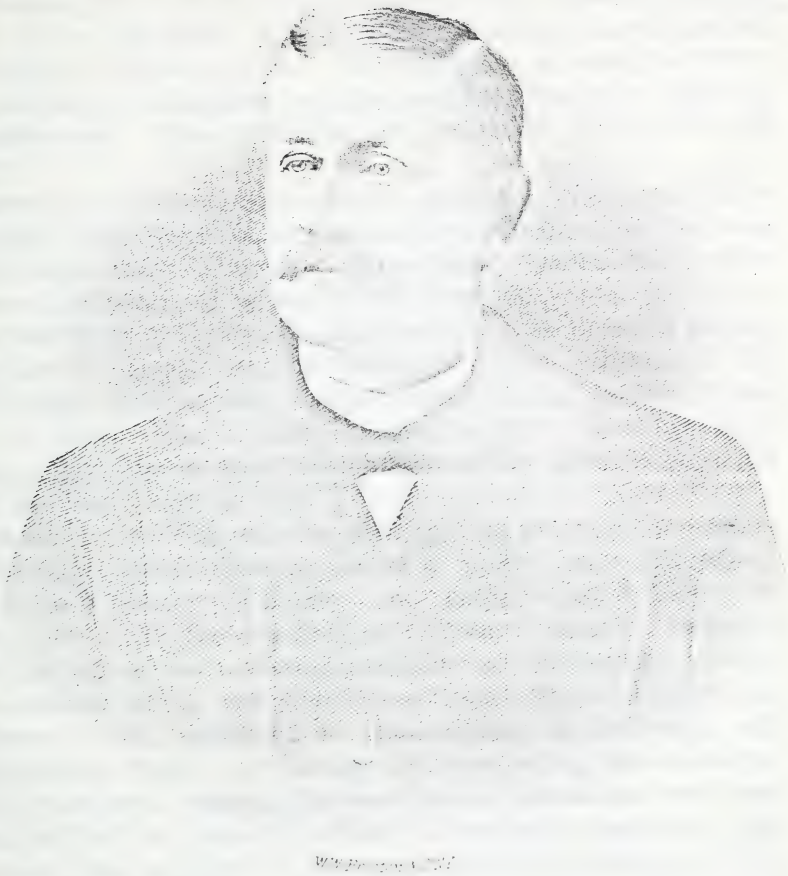
Frank M. Messenger was born on the 3d of April, 1852, in Stoddard, New Hampshire, where, until the age of fourteen, he remained upon his father's farm, meanwhile attending the neighboring school for two terms each year. Removing with his parents to Munsonville, New Hampshire, he sought employment in a chair factory, and there continued until the age of sixteen, meanwhile pursuing his studies during intervals of leisure. He next found employment in a cotton factory, and later spent a year as clerk in Norway, Maine. After a period of work in the chair factory a second time, he at nineteen accepted an engagement as card grinder in a cotton factory at Winchendon, Massachusetts, and was soon promoted to second overseer in the same department. Mr. Messenger next removed to Manchester, New Hampshire, in the employ of the Amoskeag Company, and on leaving the latter place returned to Munsonville in the capacity of overseer. He then located successively in Shirley, Waltham and Newton, all in Massachusetts, as overseer, and finally settled in Manchaug, in the same state, remaining four years, and receiving promotion while there to the position of overseer of the carding and spinning departments. He at the expiration of this time returned to Shirley as superintendent of the Phœnix & Fredonia Mills. Mr. Messenger, in November, 1884, accepted the position of superintendent of the Grosvenor Dale Mills, and in January, 1887, was made agent of all the mills owned by the Grosvenor Dale Company, which responsible position he now fills. These mills, under his successful management, have been enlarged, and the increase in their capacity may be fully estimated at twenty-five per cent. A more detailed description of the industry will be found elsewhere in this volume.

Mr. Messenger is in politics a staunch republican, and while actively interested in affairs connected with both state and county, has declined all tenders of office. He is one of the board of directors of the Thompson National Bank. He is connected with Fredonia Lodge of Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and



W. H. Brown & Co. N.Y.

Geo. T. Murdock



J. Thurston Murdock

is a member of the Baptist church of Manchaug, Massachusetts, having been for three years superintendent of its Sunday school. Mr. Messenger was married February 3d, 1874, to Eliza J., daughter of John and Sarah Smith, of Winchendon, Massachusetts, who died the following year. He was again married May 13th, 1879, to Mary A., daughter of John and Mary Young, of Newton, Massachusetts. Their children are Frank M., Mabel W. and Don E.

GEORGE TAFT MURDOCK.—Elisha Murdock, the grandfather of George Taft Murdock, was a prosperous farmer in the town of Uxbridge, Mass. His wife, a Miss Chapin, became the mother of several children, of whom Fuller Murdock, one of their sons, spent his life in Uxbridge, his native town. He married Esther, daughter of James Taft, of Uxbridge. The children of this union were: Philina, born in 1807; Abbie Eliza, in 1808; Moses Taft, in 1810; John, in 1812; Charles, in 1815; Caleb, in 1817; George Taft, March 18th, 1819; Harriet, in 1821; Chapin, in 1823, and Mary Ann, in 1825.

The fifth son of this number, George Taft Murdock, is a native of Uxbridge, where, after a period of early youth devoted to school, he at the age of twelve years began those habits of industry which laid the foundation for future success. Entering a woolen factory he was assigned to the task of piecing rolls and thus acquired by his own exertion sufficient means to defray the expenses of his education at the academy at Uxbridge, and at Plymouth, N. H. At the age of twenty-four he embarked with a partner in mercantile ventures in his native town, and continued for six years to conduct a profitable business. Mr. Murdock then engaged in the manufacture of satinets at Millbury, Mass., and at Seaconnet Point, R. I., continuing four years in these respective localities. Removing to Worcester, Mass., in 1861, he established the firm of Curtis & Murdock, manufacturers of woolen goods. In 1865 he purchased the present mills at New Boston, meanwhile retaining his residence in Worcester until 1879, when the former place became his home. The property was at this time in a dilapidated condition, and the moral sentiment of the hamlet not such as to make New Boston a desirable abode. Mr. Murdock and his son, the junior partner of the firm, by their enterprise and determination speedily created a revolution in both respects. The mills were enlarged, new buildings of brick erected, and the community infused with a

spirit of temperance and morality which greatly changed the character of the place. The mills give employment to nearly one hundred operatives who are engaged in the manufacture of cotton warp goods, sold through agents in New York and Boston.

Mr. Murdock is in his political alliances a republican. He was in 1862 a member of the city council of Worcester, and in 1884 represented his town in the Connecticut house of representatives, being assigned to the committee on school fund. He is a strong advocate of the cause of temperance, and a supporter of the doctrines of Christianity. Through his efforts and those of his son a large public hall was built in New Boston in which divine service is regularly held. Mr. Murdock was in 1845 married to Abbie A., daughter of Alvin Robinson, of Mansfield, Mass. Their children are a son, George Thurston, and a daughter, Lizzie G., deceased wife of Horace E. Bigelow.

GEORGE THURSTON MURDOCK, the only son of George Taft and Abbie A. Murdock, who was born July 4th, 1846, in Uxbridge, Mass., at the age of twelve years removed with his parents to Millbury, and later to Worcester in the same state. His education was received at the Worcester and Wilbraham Academies, after which he entered the finishing room of the mills in the former place, and thus became familiar with the first principles of manufacturing. Coming later to New Boston, he filled the position of accountant until 1866, and then assumed the superintendence of the mills. Two years later he succeeded to the interest of a former partner, who had meanwhile retired. He ultimately became an equal partner, and for many years during his father's residence in Worcester, assumed almost the entire oversight of the business, the details of which are still managed by him.

Mr. Murdock has been a co-worker with his father in his efforts to build up and improve the hamlet of New Boston, much of the active labor of which has been performed by him personally. He has been active in both town and county politics, and is at present one of the town committee. He represented his constituents in the state legislature in 1878, and served on the committees on manufactures and milage. Mr. Murdock was, on the 22d of June, 1869, married to Arrilla R., daughter of Charles D. Thayer, of New Boston. They have one daughter, Mabel Florence, born December 13th, 1876.

FRANKLIN NICHOLS.

FRANKLIN NICHOLS, one of the well-known business men and leading bankers in Connecticut, was born in Thompson, Conn., August 11th, 1805. His boyhood was passed in his native town, sharing the advantages of the schools of those days. At an early age he commenced business for himself, in the improvement of extensive farming lands inherited from his father, which honorable vocation he continued with an older brother until May, 1840, when he removed to Norwich and became a member of the firm of Nichols & Eddy, wholesale grocers. The firm subsequently changed to Nichols & Evans, and later to Nichols, Evans & Almy. In 1844 Mr. Nichols retired from the firm and engaged in the cotton business in company with the late Leonard Ballou. He, however, remained in this business but about two years, and then engaged in banking operations.

In the spring of 1833 he assisted in obtaining the charter for the Thompson Bank, which was organized in the fall of the same year with eleven directers, all of whom are deceased except himself. He has been prominently identified with the Thames Bank since 1846. He was chosen president in 1851, and has officiated in that capacity to the present time. He has outlived all then associated with him in the board of directors. Mr. Nichols has been a trustee in the Norwich Savings Society since 1851 and its president since 1879. He is the only survivor of the forty trustees in the board at the time of his election. He was also one of the incorporators of the Thames Loan and Trust Company in 1869, and for several years its president. He was chosen a director in the Gas Company upon its organization, and is now the president and only surviving member of the original board of directors. He assisted in the organization of the Bank of Mutual Redemption in Boston, and in this institution also he is the only original member left in the board. Mr. Nichols was also a director in the Norwich & Worcester railroad.

October 17th, 1839, he united in marriage with Hannah T. Fairfield, a native of Pomfret, Conn., and the family consisted of one child, a son, Franklin Nichols, deceased.

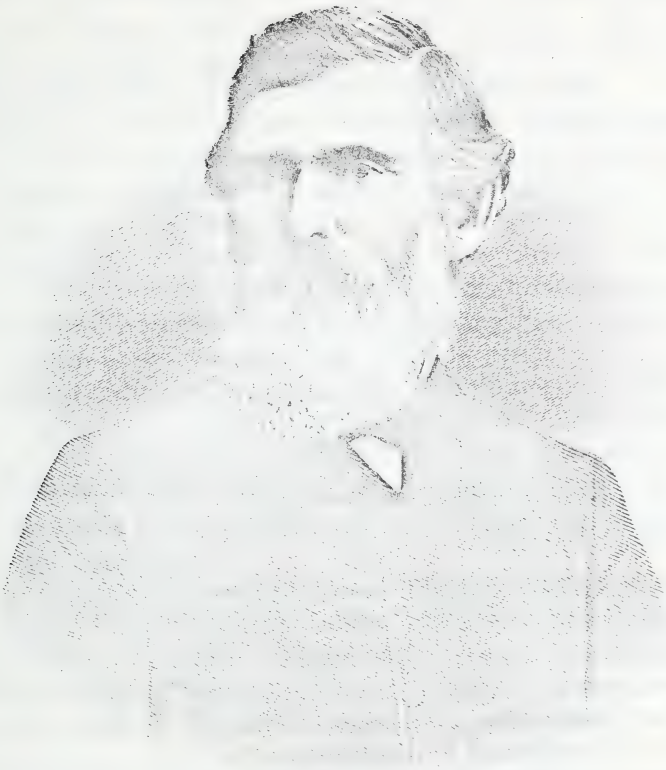
BENJAMIN F. PHIPPS.—Deacon Jason Phipps was at an early day an extensive landholder and farmer in Thompson parish, as also a justice of the peace, who exercised his prerogative with an inflexible hand. His son Jason, a soldier of the revolution, married Mary Healy, of Dudley, Mass., whose children were: Peyton Randolph, Salem T., Jason, Polly, Hannah, Mary Ann, Rebecca

and Persis. Mr. Phipps resided in Thompson, where he became the owner of much valuable land. His son, Captain Peyton Randolph, was born July 29th, 1789, in the same town, and spent his life as a farmer. He also bore an active part in the militia, of which he was captain, and served in the war of 1812, for which his widow drew a pension. He was on the 26th of May, 1814, married to Clarissa, daughter of Edward Davis, of Dudley, Mass. Their children are eleven in number, as follows: Clarissa D., Benjamin F., Edward D., Lucretia H., Abigail D., William R., Albigence W. (deceased), Lydia R., Zeruiah, Albigence W., and Samuel H. On the 25th of October, 1831, Mr. Phipps was again married to Harriet Davis, sister to his first wife. His death occurred February 2d, 1843.

Benjamin F. Phipps was born January 30th, 1816, on the homestead farm which is his present residence. Here his whole life has been spent in the healthful pursuits connected with agriculture. His opportunities for education were confined to a brief period at the neighboring public school, and his time, until twenty-one, was given to his father, who in addition to his farm employments was engaged in teaming between that point and Providence. He was afterward for several years employed on the farm and elsewhere in the neighborhood, finally assuming the management of the property on behalf of the heirs, on the decease of his father.

Mr. Phipps by his industry and excellent care of the property thus afforded a home to the family, and finally purchased the farm. He has greatly improved the land, added new buildings from time to time, and made his home one of the most desirable in that portion of the town, his daily labor being connected with the farm and its productions. He has always been identified in politics with either the whig or republican party, and filled such local offices as selectman, assessor, surveyor, etc. He is often called upon to act as executor, trustee and appraiser, and to fill various offices of trust. He worships with the Union Congregation, of New Boston, though in his faith a Universalist. Mr. Phipps on the 20th of March, 1849, married Mary L., daughter of Charles and Emily Childs, of Woodstock. Their children are two sons, Charles P. and George F., and a daughter, Mary E., who died in childhood. Charles P., who resides in Southbridge, Mass., married Sarah King of Thompson, and has one child, Maud Gladys.

Benj. H. Phillips



W.H. Preston & C. N.Y.

Chas. D. Thayer

CHARLES D. THAYER.—John and Dacy Thayer were the grandparents of the subject of this biography. Their son John married Ruth Mowery and settled in East Douglas. The children of this marriage were: Mowery, born April 27th, 1811; Charles D., December 26th, 1813; Arrilla, August 9th, 1815.

Charles D., the second son, is a native of Douglas, Massachusetts, where he enjoyed the advantages of the public schools, and afterward continued his studies at the Oxford and Uxbridge high schools. He then taught for several terms, and afterward began his business career as a clerk, first at Oxford and then at New Boston. This sedentary life, however, was not to his taste, and he resolved to make farming the vocation of his life. He assumed charge of his father's farm in New Boston, managed it with success during the latter's lifetime, and on his death received a deed of the property, the elder son also enjoying a like inheritance. Mr. Thayer remained on this farm from 1838 until 1869, when his present home near New Boston was purchased. Here he has since continued the employments of an agriculturist.

His business life has been one of integrity and principle. This fact, together with experience and judgment, have rendered his services much sought as trustee and executor. He was formerly a director of the Thompson National Bank. A democrat in his political views, he has served as assessor, selectman, and in other offices, and received the nomination as candidate for the state legislature, but yielded to the superior strength of the opposing party. Mr. Thayer married November 12th, 1843, Lucy E., daughter of David Nichols, of Thompson. Their children are: David N., born December 10th, 1844; John M., March 16th, 1847; Arrilla R., February 4th, 1850; and Charles F., November 6th, 1852. Charles F. married Mary Hewitt, of Preston, Connecticut. David N. is a resident of New York, and his brothers are successful lawyers in Norwich, Connecticut.

MARCUS F. TOWNE.—David Towne, the grandfather of Marcus F. Towne, married Lucy Upham. Their children were two sons and two daughters, of whom George, born in Thompson, February 18th, 1794, married Sally, daughter of Rufus Tyler. The children of this marriage were: Lucy, who died in youth; Rufus T., Marcus F., Noadiah W. and Lucy U., wife of Joseph S. Perry.

Marcus F. Towne was born June 21st, 1824, on the farm in Thompson, where his whole life, with the exception of a single

year, has been spent. He attended the common school, and for a short period the high school, after which his attention was given to farming. He also became proficient as a blacksmith, and combined this with his other duties. Mr. Towne entered into a co-partnership with his father, and while farming operated a thresher. He also did more or less teaming. Receiving before his father's death a deed of a portion of the farm, he subsequently added to this a valuable tract by purchase. He also owns fifty acres in Woodstock, which is used as a pasture land for the fattening of beef for the market.

Mr. Towne is a director of the Thompson Savings Bank. He has been for many years director and for two years president of the Woodstock Agricultural Society. He is in politics a republican, was for the years 1873 and 1884 a member of the Connecticut house of representatives, has been for seven years a selectman, and for a long period on the school district committee. He has been for thirty-two years an active, exemplary and useful member of the Congregational church of Thompson, and a portion of that time one of its deacons. He was November 29th, 1848, married to Lucy Ann, daughter of Jason Wakefield, of the same town. Their only child, a son, died in his fourteenth year. He was again married July 6th, 1856, to Mary J., daughter of Paul Kinney, of Union, Connecticut. Their children are Lucy A., George V. and Adfer M.

Aaron White died at Quinebaug, in the town of Thompson, April 15th, 1886, aged 87 years and six months. He was born in Boylston, Mass., October 8th, 1798, and was the eldest of ten children, seven sons and three daughters, of Aaron and Mary White.

His ancestry were of the early puritan settlers of Eastern Massachusetts, and among them on the side of his mother, were the Adams' of Boston, her grandmother being a sister of Governor Samuel Adams, a distinguished patriot of the revolution. His father kept a country store, cultivated an adjoining farm, was a leading man in town affairs, town clerk for twenty-two years, many years a member of the board of selectmen, and repeatedly a representative to the legislature.

The father having determined to give his son, Aaron, Jr., the advantages of a liberal education, sent him to the academies in New Salem and Leicester, and in his fourteenth year the boy entered Harvard, graduating in the class of 1817.

Marcus J. Towne

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Having concluded to establish himself in the practice of law in Rhode Island, Mr. White after a brief period of study in the offices of General George L. Barnes, of Woonsocket, in Smithfield, and of the late Judge Thomas Burgess, of Providence, was admitted to the bar of Rhode Island, at Providence, at the September term of the supreme court, 1820—a little under twenty-two years of age, and opened his office at Cumberland Hill, in the town of Cumberland.

A mail route was laid out over Cumberland Hill, and the office of postmaster there was held by him until he removed to Woonsocket Falls in 1829.

As he had the reputation of being a careful bank manager, he was invited in 1829 to take charge of a new bank at Woonsocket Falls, as cashier and one of the directors. Without relinquishing his law practice he accepted the appointment, and continued in charge of the bank for a few years.

Esquire White became an ardent adherent of Governor Dorr, personally and politically, and chief adviser in all matters touching political subjects and the personal affairs of his friend the governor, therefore he was compelled to leave Rhode Island in 1842 and he came to New Boston.

Mr. White at first took up his abode in this obscure village, in a brick building, which at that time was the village store, and the grandest building in the vicinity. He removed not long afterward to Barnes' tavern, on the old Boston and Hartford turnpike. Here he made the acquaintance of a daughter of Mr. Alfred Barnes, and a mutual attachment was formed, resulting in their marriage in 1843. To this event was due his change of abode from Rhode Island to Connecticut, his wife dying when his son was born. The son now lives on a farm in Grafton, Mass. He is unmarried.

Mr. White in the latter years of his life took up the subject of numismatics, the collection and study of coins. The United States government in 1857 discontinued the coinage of copper cents, substituting at first the nickel cent, and a few years afterward, the bronze one and two cent pieces as at present used. This furnished Mr. White a rare opportunity for augmenting his collections, especially of the cheaper coins, and he improved it to a greater extent, probably, than any other person in the United States. In his legal practice he spared no effort to have his clients' business done in the best and most thorough manner, yet

his charges for services rendered were extremely moderate. A teetotaler in principle and practice, he would not tolerate the use of alcoholic drink as a beverage by any one in his employment.

Mr. White was possessed of considerable real estate in this vicinity, and although reported rich, the actual value of his whole estate, real and personal, is not known, and was probably much exaggerated in popular opinions. After Mr. White's death, his brother shipped from the station at Quinebaug 4½ tons of pennies, the value of which would be about $8,000.

Mr. White after graduating from college, spent a year and upward as a school teacher, first in Roxbury, now Boston Highlands, and afterward in the city of Vergennes, Vt. He then commenced the study of law in Middlebury, Vt., in the office of Horatio Seymour, afterward governor and senator in congress from Vermont.

In his will Mr. White gave directions for his burial on a knoll on the northerly side of the railroad, just over the boundary line of Massachusetts, in the town of Dudley. The knoll is shaded with pines, transplanted when small seedlings by Mr. White about forty years ago. After giving minute instructions for a monument to be erected at his grave, he directs the following epitaph written by him January 1st, 1844, to be engraved on the stone:

To the memory of Aaron White, Son of Aaron and Mary White, born October 8th, 1798, died—

HIC
IN EXILIO PROFUGUS,
HUMANUM GENTES JUS DEFENDENS
ET HOSPITIUM ET AMOREM,
ET DOMUM ET SEPULCHRUM
INVENI.

HERE
DRIVEN INTO EXILE,
WHILE DEFENDING THE RIGHTS OF MAN,
I FOUND
HOSPITALITY AND LOVE,
A HOME AND A SEPULCHRE.

CHAPTER XXX.

THE TOWN OF PUTNAM.

Incorporation and General Description.—Early History.—First Settlers.—West of the Quinebaug.—The South Neighborhood.—Early Improvement of Water Privileges.—Roads and Bridges.—The Stone Mills.—Early Homestead Residents.—The French War.—The Revolution.—After the War.—Cargill's Mills.—Quinebaug High Falls.—Educational and Religious.—Killingly Hill.—Beginning of Cotton Manufacturing.—Pomfret Factory.—During the War of 1812.—Residents and Managers of the Factory.—Rhodesville.—Building up of Additional Factories.—Rival and Conflicting Interests of Three Adjoining Towns.—Various Propositions and Controversy.—Organization of the new Town of Putnam.

THE township of Putnam, incorporated in 1855, was made up from parts of Thompson, Killingly and Pomfret. The Quinebaug river, with its great falls in the heart of the village, is its most distinctive physical feature, its main source of life and business prosperity. Manufacturing enterprise, aided by railroads, built up a flourishing village. This village demanded expansion and the liberty to manage its own affairs, and after a desperate struggle obtained town privileges, taking in as much surrounding territory as was needful to give it corporate standing, and by running its south boundary line obliquely, cutting off barren land eastward. This funnel-like conformation of the projected town excited much ridicule during the contest, and it is said that its pictorial presentation before the legislature had much influence in procuring the rejection of the early petitions. But while the manufacturing interests of the town are strongly dominant, Putnam is by no means deficient in agricultural resources. With improved culture and immediate market, farming has made great advances. Dairying and market gardening are remunerative industries. There are many good farms in the vicinity of the valley and in the former South Neighborhood. The Assawaga or Five Mile river in the east of the town furnishes a number of mill privileges. The recent

discovery and utilizing of the Aspinock Mineral Spring at Putnam Heights is likely to prove of much benefit to this section.

Though Putnam is one of the youngest towns in Windham county, and is pre-eminently a growth of modern civilization, its roots reach far backward. The High Falls were noted far back in aboriginal days. The surrounding valley was a favorite resort of the red man long before Lieutenant John Sabin crossed the Woodstock line into the wilderness of Connecticut. An Indian trail ran southeast from the falls toward Rhode Island before Peter Aspinwall cut his way through the woods to make a path to Providence. The "Joseph Cady farm," east of Putnam village (now owned by Mr. Eli Davis), was noted for producing a remarkable variety and quantity of medicinal herbs and roots, much used by the "medicine men" of the Indians. It is traditionally reported that Indians came from a great distance to gather these herbs, and that in consequence this locality was made a sacred haven, where no bloodshed was lawful, and tribal foes might meet in safety. The Falls were noted for their remarkable facilities for fishing, especially when shad and salmon were trying to ascend them.

The first known settler within the limits of the present Putnam was Richard Evans of Rehoboth, who purchased for twenty pounds a grant of wild land laid out to Reverend James Pierpont, of New Haven, and is described in 1693, "as resident of said granted premises." The farm was further described as bounded by wilderness and about three miles from Woodstock. Very little can be learned of this first settler east of the Quinebaug, except the fact that he occupied the farm now owned by Mr. William Holland, and that in about twenty years he and his son Richard were in possession of "two tenement of housen, barns, orchards, tanning pits and fulling mill," all testifying strongly to their thrift and industry.

Lietenant Peter Aspinwall, of Woodstock, was apparently second on the field, and the first resident within the bounds of the present Putnam village. Sent by Woodstock, in 1691, "to make a way unto the cedar swamp, on the other side of the Quinebaug, for a road to Providence," during the progress of the work he removed his residence to the valley, but not probably until the close of the Indian war of 1695-98, and his marriage to the widow of John Leavens. Lieutenant Aspinwall was a very prominent man in Woodstock, one of its original pioneers and settlers.

He was also very active in military affairs, serving as scout and ranger during the troublesome warfare. Remaining a bachelor till somewhat late in life, he was apparently unfortunate in his matrimonial venture, "the widow and her sons keeping him low," according to the Aspinwall chronicle. These step-sons, particularly James and Joseph Leavens, were the first business men within Putnam limits, being employed by James Corbin, trader at Woodstock, to collect tar for Boston market. It was while engaged in this service that Joseph, the younger brother, received a wound in the thumb from a rattlesnake, and only saved his life by immediate amputation. Rattlesnake hill, near Five Mile river, "half a mile long and a hundred rods broad," was the scene of this adventure, and was one of the early land purchases of the brothers. James Leavens also owned a mill privilege on Five Mile river, believed to be the site of Hawkins' mills, and carried on the first saw mill east of the Quinebaug.

The Providence road cut by Peter Aspinwall wound around the base of Killingly hill to this mill, and accommodated customers. The Assawaga received its English name from the fact that the first land laid out upon it was "supposed to be about five miles from Woodstock," the only settlement in the section. Peter Aspinwall's farm was south of the Providence road, bordering on the Quinebaug. Its site can be identified by the old burying ground, its north or northeast extremity, which he gave to the town of Killingly.

The first settlers north of the Providence road were the inevitable "three brothers" of all New England settlements—Nicholas, Daniel and Joseph Cady, from Groton, Mass., soon after 1700. Nicholas settled first north of Killingly hill, but removed to a fine farm on Whetstone brook. His brother Joseph purchased the wilderness land held in such repute by the Indians, a mile east of the Quinebaug. He was a man of great strength and prowess, much respected by the Indians, able it was said to beat their strongest warriors in wrestling. A bunch of the sacred herbs, suspended over his cabin door, served as an amulet against assault or surprise. As soon as circumstances warranted Captain Cady erected the large house still standing in tolerable preservation, and owned by Mr. Eli Davis. It was considered an old house in 1774, when after the demise of the second Joseph Cady it was sold to Lieutenant-Governor Sessions, of Rhode Island. Daniel Cady's homestead was north of Joseph's, and after

a few years passed into the hands of William Larned, who built a large house near the angle of the roads, whose frame forms part of the present residence of Mr. William Plummer. These two old houses merit commemoration as the oldest now standing within the limits of Putnam village, and connected with its early settlement.

One of the original owners of Killingly hill was John Allen, of Marlborough, Mass., a man of means with sons to settle in life. Among his purchases was a very valuable interval, comprising 160 acres upon the Quinebaug, "near a pair of falls, fifty rods above the mouth of Mill river, extending up stream to a crook of the river, near the mouth of a small brook running into the river" (east side). All the above settlers purchased their land before Killingly was made a town, and called themselves in their several land deeds, inhabitants of *Aspinock*, near the Quinebaug. This picturesque name seems to have been applied to the valley east of the river from the Cady settlements to Lake Mashapaug, but was laid aside after Killingly was organized in 1708. Its derivation and signification are still doubtful.

West side the Quinebaug the first settler was Captain John Sabin. Although his fine old mansion was just outside the line dividing Putnam from Pomfret, yet his ownership of the land and intimate connection with the first settlement of the Quinebaug gives him a prominent place among Putnam notables. His settlement even preceded that of Richard Evans, dating back to 1691, and his services during the subsequent Indian wars, by maintaining fortifications upon the frontier and restraining and "subsisting" the Indians, were publicly recognized by Massachusetts and Connecticut governments. He was made lieutenant of Woodstock's first military company, captain of Pomfret's first company and sergeant-major of Windham county's first troop of horse. He was also Pomfret's first representative to general court and one of the most prominent and respected citizens of Windham county. Owning much land in the valley, many building sites passed to his sons, furnishing three or four "old Sabin Houses" within the limits of Putnam. His own historic mansion, demolished with great labor and difficulty by Mr. William I. Bartholomew in 1835, was just south of Woodstock line. This homestead descended to his son Noah. His son John adopted the medical profession and settled in Franklin, Conn. His son, Lieutenant Hezekiah Sabin, was the first resident pro-

prietor of Thompson hill. His daughter Judith married Joseph Leavens, of Killingly, receiving for her marriage portion a beautiful farm upon Lake Mashapaug.

Captain John Sabin is most intimately connected with Putnam as the builder of the first bridge over the Quinebaug below the High Falls, in 1722. For more than twenty years Peter Aspinwall had besought the assembly for liberty to build a bridge at this point, showing that the want of such convenience had been a grievous burden and affliction to travelers and himself, the river being exceedingly high and swift and not always fordable. Leading citizens of Pomfret reiterated the complaint, that the Quinebaug was at some seasons impassable, and that persons had endangered their lives in trying to pass, but the assembly turned a deaf ear to all petitions for relief. Captain Sabin, with his usual energy, threw himself into the breach, and with his sons' aid built a good, substantial bridge, costing £120, and then called upon the government for reimbursement. The committee sent to inspect reported the bridge built in suitable place, out of danger of being carried away by floods or ice, the height of bridge being above any flood yet known by any men living there; thought it would be very serviceable to a great part of the government in traveling to Boston, being at least ten miles the nearest way according to their judgment. Three hundred acres of land on the east side of the Connecticut river were accordingly granted, on condition of keeping the bridge in repair "fourteen years next coming."

The second settler within the present limits of Putnam village was Jonathan Eaton, of Dedham, who in 1703 bought land on both sides of the Quinebaug, at what was called the Upper Falls, now improved by the Putnam Manufacturing Company. His home was on the west side of the river, in what was then known as "a Peculiar," viz., a strip of land unassigned to any town. Even Killingly, which exercised rights in the territory of Thompson long before it was legally assigned to her, levied no taxes west side the river. Being thus cut off from civil relations, we can learn little of this early settler excepting the fact that; though not compelled by law, he carried his numerous children to be duly baptized in Woodstock meeting house, and that he was elected deacon of the church in Thompson parish. With two traveled roads near his dwelling, he probably exercised the privilege of entertaining travelers. Above the Upper

Falls the Quinebaug was easily forded in low water, and an Indian trail trodden out in time to a bridle path connected his establishment with the Cady settlement. The mill privilege owned by Deacon Eaton was improved by his sons, at a much later date.

The third family within the bounds of Putnam village was probably that of Samuel Perrin, who, with Peter Aspinwall and Benjamin Griggs, secured a deed of land from Major James Fitch in 1703, both sides the Quinebaug, below its junction with Mill brook. According to tradition, this land was purchased of the Indians, and it seems improbable that so valuable a tract should have been sold at so low a figure by a veteran land jobber unless there had been a prior claim upon it. Aspinwall, as we have seen, took the land east of the river; Griggs sold his share to Samuel Paine. The Perrin farm was retained in the family for several generations. How soon Samuel Perrin took possession of this purchase is not apparent, as he still retained his Woodstock residence, but soon after 1714 he built the well known "old Perrin House," so familiar to older residents of this section. It was probably first cultivated by his younger brother David, who died early, unmarried, and was made over to his son, Ensign Samuel Perrin, after his marriage to Dorothy Morris in 1724.

During this period many others had gathered in the South Neighborhood and eastward on the Assawaga. James Leavens' saw mill passed into the hands of Isaac and John Cutler, of Lexington, Mass. The former had many sons settling in that vicinity, building gambrel roofed houses, one of which still stands, "the old Cutler House," near the Rhode Island line. John Cutler died early, leaving numerous children. Part of his original farm was lost by a re-settlement of the above line, and his son Hezekiah removed to the vicinity of Killingly hill. The first meeting house in Killingly was built a little south of this hill, near the Providence road, in 1715, and encouraged settlement in that vicinity. The first minister, Reverend John Fisk, had his residence west of the hill.

Putnam's first settler, Richard Evans, had now removed, and his home farm was occupied by Simon Bryant, of Braintree, who purchased house, barn, orchard, tanning pits, etc., in 1712. His oldest daughter, Hannah, married William Larned in 1715, and their son Simon succeeded to the Evans farm, the first land laid

out east of the Quinebaug in this section, now owned by Mr. W. R. Holland. Thomas Whitmore settled north of Simon Bryant at an early date, on the farm now improved by Mr. G. W. Whittlesy. George Blanchard occupied land southward now held by Mr. William Converse. Michael Felshaw secured the farm still southward, reaching to the brow of Killingly hill. The farm now improved by the family of the late J. O. Fox was first owned by James Wilson. Near him was the residence of Jonathan Hughes, whose son Edmond set out the "Great Elm," so famous in revolutionary annals. John Johnson's homestead was upon the site of the present residence of Mr. James Arnold. Samuel Lee purchased the northern part of what is now known as Parks hill, and built the house afterward occupied by Deacon Lusher Gay and his descendants. He died before 1730, at which date his widow, Mary Lee, was licensed to keep a house of public entertainment.

A granddaughter of Captain Joseph Cady, who afterward married Deacon Gay, delighted in old age to tell of "a puppet show" which she attended at this public house when she was six years old, viz., in 1731. There were many little girls and boys growing up in the vicinity at that date. Deacon Eaton had eight or nine, Simon Bryant had seven daughters, William Larned seven sons, Joseph Leavens had eight daughters and three sons, the Cady and Lee children could hardly be numbered, and it is pleasant to know that they had this evening's entertainment. Up to this date there is no evidence that they even had the privilege of attending school, but were probably taught at home by fathers and mothers. The boys of the neighborhood enjoyed special privileges in fishing, the Quinebaug being famous for shad, salmon and lamprey eels. The latter were caught in ingeniously constructed weirs or "eel-pots;" suckers were speared by torchlight. The Indians were very skillful fishermen, and initiated their favorites into some of the mysteries of their art. An "Indian girl" was included in the inventory of Captain John Sabin's possessions. An Indian family occupied a wigwam beside a huge boulder near the site of the Davis ice house, self-elected tributaries to Captain Cady, who had rescued them from some great peril. Both he and Captain Sabin were greatly respected by their Indian neighbors. An old squaw thus expressed her emotion, upon the return of the former from military service: "O Massa Cady, I glad to see you! I

so glad if I had a whole pint of rum I drink it all down myself." Excessive indulgence in the use of cider, and any other liquor they could lay hands on, accelerated the dying out of these natives. Old Quaco, the last of his race, was tenderly cared for down to his last hours by the Perrin family.

In 1730 the privilege of the Great Falls was utilized by David Howe of Mendon, clothier, who purchased the point of land between the Quinebaug and Mill rivers, beginning forty rods above the falls, from Captain John Sabin and his son Noah. A dwelling house, grist mill, malt house and dye house were soon set up and in motion, accommodating his own neighborhood and adjacent parts of Pomfret and Killingly. Thompson parish had now been incorporated, taking in all the east side residents north of the falls. Killingly hill was gaining new inhabitants. Increasing development called for more roads and better traveling facilities.

Putnam as a town has been seriously incommoded by the uncertain tenure of its roads. It has been exceedingly difficult to trace the roads of three distinct towns to their original layout. In several cases it has been made evident that there *was no* layout, but that in confirmation of the modern development theory the roads were slowly *evolved* from Indian trails and "trod out" paths. This is very notably true of the original east side road, between the Upper and High Falls, which must have existed as a trail or mode of communication from time immemorial. The road west side of the river was made, as we have seen, by order of the town of Woodstock, about 1700, crossing Mill river or Muddy brook just below Peter's brook, and thence southeast diagonally over the falls, past the old Killingly burying ground, and onward around the base of Killingly hill. In the deed describing Deacon Eaton's farm west of the Quinebaug, the Providence road, it is said "crosseth its southeast corner," and another road passed through his land, "formerly laid out from Hartford to Mendon." This road, laid out before 1700, must have run nearly north up the Quinebaug valley and connected with what was known as the Old Connecticut Path at the crossing below the site of the present New Boston, but it was probably not a common thoroughfare, as we find no other trace of it. It is altogether probable that there was a "trod out" road east of the river also, extending south to Plainfield and Norwich. As a matter of fact, we know that there has been such a valley road

as far back as can be traced, that the first surveyors of this wilderness land found a way to get there, and that a rude track had been trodden out and made passable before the actual settlement.

In consequence of the total lack of record of "Town Acts" in Killingly for more than twenty years after its organization, we are left in ignorance of its first attempts at road making. The country road, as it was called, leading from Plainfield to Boston, laid out by government before 1700, passed through Killingly, and was nearly identical with the north and south road now passing through the same section. It has been twice re-surveyed and laid out, but no change has been made in its general bearings. The first surveyors found it easier to run their line west of Killingly hill, but in the "perambulation of 1731" the road was made to ascend "to a heap of stones on a rock upon the hill," and so on over its summit. In 1721 a cart path from Pomfret to Providence was opened under the supervision of Nathaniel Sessions, crossing the Quinebaug over Sabin's bridge, and thence over the former road cut through by Aspinwall, making it passable for wheeled vehicles. The above roads are all that can be identified prior to the establishment of Howe's mills. Efforts were then made to increase accommodations. A private road or bridle path leading from the bridge to Perrin's farm and the Gary district was improved and made a public highway, and a bridge thrown over Mill river in 1732.

Sabin's bridge was reconstructed or thoroughly repaired by Samuel Cutler, a distant relative of Captain Isaac Cutler, who was now living at the north end of Killingly hill. He then petitioned the general court for forgiveness of country rates, license to keep a place of public entertainment, and for a committee to lay out a road from Sabin's bridge over Killingly hill, past his dwelling, at a place called "The Four-fanged Oak," and eastward to intersect with the Providence road, thereby preventing the long journey round the base of the hill. This new road he averred would be a great convenience to travellers, and indeed was "now travelled on but not yet laid out." His requests were all refused, but undiscouraged he applied to the town authorities, who in August, 1732, warned a meeting "to consider of altering the country road that goes through the town towards Providence at the west end, in order to meet a road laid out by the town of Pomfret, at David Howe's mills." The town voted

"not to alter the road," and thus it happens that the road leading from Putnam to the north end of the Heights, was left to evolve itself, not having been laid out by lawful powers. This persistent refusal may have been caused by the fact that "Sam Cutler" was not considered as sound as some of his neighbors and was inclined to speculation. He succeeded in obtaining release from rates for his services upon the bridge, but the "Four-fanged Oak Tavern" and highway passing thereby were not granted.

The petition of those honored town fathers, Captain Joseph Cady and Jonathan Eaton, for a better road to Thompson meeting house, met a very different reception. A committee was at once appointed to consider their needs and those of other church-goers. In point of fact they did little more than to establish roads already existing in a crude form, the town having voted "that every person that shall move to this town to have any way altered or removed, it shall be done at the petitioners' cost and charge." September 12th, 1737, the committee reported a road laid out, "beginning east end of the bridge over the Quinebaug, near Mr. David Howe's, thence extending along the path or road, leading from said bridge to Captain Cady's; thence northeast by pine trees and great rock, east of an old ditch in Mr. Simon Bryant's land, to a corner between Bryant's and William Larned's, thence in the same corner to the southeast corner of Larned's fence, keeping the path leading thence to John Lee's; thence to the brow of a hill of Deacon Eaton's land; thence over Hosmer's field into the road to Thompson meeting house," near the site of the present residence of Mr. George H. Nichols. This connection with the West Thompson road instead of the direct road from Killingly hill to Thompson, is an indirect testimony to the existence of the valley road previously referred to as passing near Deacon Eaton's. Hosmer owned land now in the vicinity of Mechanicsville. The road from Captain Cady's, "as trod," winding back nearly to the river, so as to accommodate William Larned, John Lee and Deacon Eaton, must have been laid nearly in the form of a horse shoe.

A bridle road with gates and bars was also allowed "as the path is trod" from Jonathan Hughes, near the country road, past the dwelling houses of John Pepper and Phinehas Lee to William Larned's; also a bridle road from "land of Simon Bryant to the country road from Plainfield to Oxford, upon the path

on which said Bryant usually travelleth from his own door to Thompson Meeting House." This bridle road is probably identical with the present road passing Mr. Holland's residence. The rapid growth of this neighborhood and the need of open access to Howe's mills transformed the first named bridle road in a few years. "March 4th, 1749, Voted, to allow and accept an open road from Capt. Daniels' bridge as the road is now trod along by William Larned's house and by Phinehas Lee's and Mr. Gay's, &c., into the country road by Edmond Hughes', three rods wide, excepting through Mr. Gay's land, where there is now a stone wall on both sides, and there it is to be but two rods wide, and if the wall must be moved to make it two rods wide the surveyors that mend the road are to move the wall, and it is to be understood that the men that own the land where the road is allowed and accepted appeared in the meeting and there declared that they would give the land for the said road two rods wide as is above mentioned, and the road was allowed and accepted upon those terms." This is the ancient road now passing over Parks hill and winding round to the brook near Mr. Olney's, and the moss-covered walls now tumbling into ruin are the same that Mr. Lusher Gay refused to remove in 1749.

Several changes had occurred at that date. In 1742 the Howe mills passed into the hands of Captain Nathaniel Daniels, together with dwelling house, barn, malt house, shop and the whole manufacturing stock of Quinebaug valley, viz., "ye conveniences of three coppers, two presses, one iron screw, two pairs shears, two iron bars, a blue pot, paper for pressing and searcloth for malting." Noah Sabin had succeeded to the mansion house and valley land of his father. Peter Aspinwall had disappeared from public life and was probably sleeping in his own grave yard, though no stone perpetuates his memory. Captain Joseph Cady was succeeded by his son Justice Joseph, a man of equal probity and influence, the richest man in the community, and, according to tradition, "the first man to own a coach." William Larned died in 1747, leaving his homestead to his son, Captain William, who sold the same to Isaac Parks, whose name still clings to the historic hill and neighborhood. Captain David Cady, Jonathan Cady and other descendants of Captain Cady, Sr., were settled on farms west of Killingly hill. John Felshaw had opened a popular house of entertainment at the north end of the hill. The first practicing physician of this ce-

gion, Doctor Thomas Moffatt, had his residence upon the hill, as also Noah, youngest son of Justice Joseph Leavens. Simon Bryant died in 1748, leaving his homestead to his grandson, Simon Larned. Deacon Jonathan Eaton died the same year. His successor in the deacon's office, Lusher Gay, of Dedham, purchased the farm originally laid out to Samuel Lee in 1738. Samuel Perrin was rearing a large family in the pleasant Perrin homestead. Jonathan Dresser, Samuel and Seth Paine, were residents of the Quinebaug valley. Captain Isaac Cutler and his numerous sons still held possession of the mills and privileges of the Assawaga, eastward.

Captain Nathaniel Daniels carried on his various business enterprises for a number of years, and was prominent in many public affairs. In 1760, he sold the whole establishment, viz., land, water privilege, mills, dwelling house, together with his "clothier's, fuller's and grist mill tools and utensils," to Benjamin Cargill, then of Mendon, Mass., a descendant of Reverend Donald Cargill. Captain Cargill at once took possession of his purchase and by shrewdness and good management increased and extended the business and became very widely known throughout the section. Rival mills at the Upper Falls now established by the sons of Deacon Eaton made business more lively. A new road to Thompson was laid out "from Capt. Daniels' land to another highway between Landlord Converse's and Martha Flint's" in 1763—now known as "the Mountain Road" between Putnam and Thompson, passing Origin Alton's and Stephen Ballard's. Messrs. Jared Talbot and David Perry had set up grist and saw mills upon the Assawaga at the site of the ruined Daniels' mills.

Killingly hill had now received another practicing physician, Doctor Samuel Holden Torrey, son of the famous Doctor Joseph Torrey, of South Kingston. His young wife, Anna Gould, of Branford, brought with her four slaves as part of her marriage portion. His brother, Joseph Torrey, settled east of Killingly hill, marrying a daughter of Reverend John Fisk. Deacon Ebenezer, son of William Larned, whose wife was one of the eight capable daughters of Justice Joseph Leavens, also occupied a farm on the same road near the Cutler farms. His brother, James Larned, a shrewd business man and reputed usurer, resided near Felshaw's tavern. Among other residents upon homesteads now within Putnam limits were Isaac Cady, Samp-

son and Pearley, grandsons of Captain Sampson Howe, Hezekiah and Benoni Cutler, Benjamin and Noah Leavens, Benjamin, Jonathan, Nedebiah, Joseph, David and Isaac Cady, Jonathan and Samuel Buck and Joseph Adams. West of the Quinebaug the residents were not numerous, the land being held mostly by the Perrin and Sabin families. "Cargill's bridge" below the High Falls, was rebuilt in 1770—John Grosvenor, Samuel Perrin and Benjamin Cargill, committee. An attempt to lay out a more direct road from Cargill's westward was defeated.

In the various wars in which the colonies were concerned, the future Putnam bore her proportionate share. Ensign Samuel Perrin served actively in the French and Indian war, his wife supporting her family mainly through "the hard winter" of his absence by a crop of carrots raised by her own hands. Samuel, oldest son of William Larned, served as first lieutenant of Captain David Holmes' regiment. James Wilson was so unfortunate as to be carried captive into Canada, returning just in time to save his wife from a second marriage. As the revolutionary war came on the whole valley was stirred. The old Cady homestead, upon the decease of Captain Joseph Cady, was purchased by Darius Sessions, son of Nathaniel Sessions of Pomfret, and then deputy-governor of Rhode Island, one of the prominent leaders among the revolting patriots. The house, already "old," was thoroughly reconstructed, enlarged and beautified, transformed into a stately, colonial mansion. Governor Sessions also took much pains with his grounds and farm, making, according to President James Manning, "truly wonderful" accommodations. In this fine country seat many patriots found a safe retreat from the constant alarms and perils of the seaboard, making it almost a war office and place for general consultation. Killingly hill, with its lofty banner and bonfires, the South Neighborhood Elm, a noted place of rendezvous, are memorable revolutionary localities. Even more sacred is the little triangular common at the junction of the Woodstock and Pomfret roads, west of the Mill river, where Captain Stephen Brown paraded with his company before marching to Cambridge after the Lexington alarm. Three giant Sabins were in this company, of whom at least one, Ichabod, was slain at Bunker hill. Elihu Sabin was also in that battle, and lived to delight many hearers with the story of his experiences, and especially of that last charge of ammunition which he kept in reserve until hotly pursued by a gallant British

officer. "And did you kill him?" the boys would ask eagerly. "Well, I don't know exactly," he would answer, "but the last I saw of him he was getting off his horse."

With the adoption of the federal constitution and the quickening of business enterprise all over the United States, new life developed in the Quinebaug valley. Ebenezer Bundy came into possession of the Eaton farm and privileges after the removal of the Eaton families to western Massachusetts. He built a new dam or reconstructed the old one, his grist mill being set upon the rocks, near the bank of the river, the site now occupied by the north end of the mill owned by the Putnam Manufacturing Company. Great efforts were made to secure a road direct from this point to Larned & Mason's store in the South Neighborhood, which was now the headquarters of mercantile enterprise, but just at this juncture public men were too much occupied with the new town question to give attention to road making. Captain Cargill meantime was greatly extending his business operations, buying land east of the river, setting up a gin distillery, building new mills and houses. In 1787 he completed the new grist mill, fitting it up with all the best art of the day, with three complete sets of grist mills and a bolting mill. A blacksmith shop, and two trip hammers, a fulling mill, and mills to grind scythes and "churn butter" were among his achievements. Mr. Timothy Williams of Woodstock, speaks of Captain Cargill's new enterprise with much enthusiasm, "Viewed from lofts at Cargill's mills" (the first and second were used for mill purposes); "the third a Baptist meeting room; 4th, a large, convenient, well replenished granary." With such accommodations and the best attendance, it was no marvel that the establishment took precedence of all other mills in the section, farmers in neighboring towns driving by their home mills because of the superior quality of Cargill's grinding.

The captain was a genial, whole-souled man, the life of the business and settlement, delighting in his large family and varied business enterprises. The rude rhyme in which he incorporated the names of his eleven children almost parallels that of the famous "Hutchinson Family" song. His oldest daughter, Lucy Cargill, married as his second wife, Doctor Albigence Waldo, of Pomfret, the most noted physician and surgeon of his day, a man of varied gifts and attainments. Mrs. Waldo sympathized in her husband's literary tastes, and was herself a writer

and poetess, especially noted for her proficiency in the "art of letter writing." Cargill's Mills was thus noted for literary society as well as a business center. The third meeting of the first medical society in Connecticut was held at Cargill's, September, 1786. Still there were no residents at the mill beside the Cargill family and those employed by them. A block of three wooden houses was built west of the grist mill by Captain Cargill about this date, which survived some years after Putnam was made a town.

The "Pomfret Factory grave yard," west of the old factory, must have been opened at this time, as the children of Mrs. Waldo were buried there. Many of the descendants of Captain John Sabin were also buried there. His original homestead, the old historic Sabin house, had now passed into the hands of his grandson, Cornet Jonathan. Not far from the house but on the east side of the road, so that it came within the limits of the present Putnam, stood a quaint old house with diamond windows, known as the "Silas Sabin place," and a little north of it stood the "Peter Sabin house." Silas and Peter Sabin were brothers, descended from Deacon Benjamin of Pomfret, who had contrived to get possession of some of the John Sabin land, for which, it was said, they paid a trifling yearly rental. The wives of Cornet Jonathan and Silas Sabin were sisters, daughters of ——— May, so that these three families were very closely connected. They were all of immense stature and fine singers, social and hospitable, and most heartily improved their remarkable social privileges. Still another pleasant Sabin homestead was that of the revolutionary veteran, Deacon Elihu Sabin, and his excellent wife, a favorite resort for young and old.

Land from Cornet Sabin, and other tracts from various parties, increased Ebenezer Bundy's farm to at least five hundred acres on both sides the Quinebaug. Renewed petitions for a road from Larned's store to Bundy's mills excited much discussion and some opposition in Thompson. Though much addicted to road making, this young town was chary of cost. When it was decided in 1797 that a turnpike was actually to be laid out through West Thompson, renewed efforts were made to procure a direct road from Larned's store to Bundy's mills at the Upper Fall, and thence west to intersect the stage road near Abel Alton's. The committee reported in favor of such road, but their report was rejected again and

again. It was not until Mr. Bundy offered to build a good substantial bridge, at his own cost, over the Quinebaug, and the owners of the land volunteered to give what was needful, fence the road and make it passable, that the town reluctantly consented to allow it. This road, as laid out, began twenty-six rods west side the Quinebaug, then across the river where Eaton's bridge had formerly stood, then in a straight line up hill and down to intersect the old road from Thompson meeting house to Cargill's, near the house of Isaac Parks. It made a very direct route from Woodstock and the Quinebaug valley to Larned's store and on to Providence, but the steepness of the hills made it a very hard road to travel, and children going to Bundy's mill on horseback were often pitched head over heels descending these declivities.

Cargill's mills had now been thrown into market. The death of Doctor Waldo, and of some of his own children, had broken the health and spirits of the good captain, and he felt unable to compete with his enterprising rival above. In his advertisement in 1793 he sets forth in glowing terms the peculiar advantages of his "noted inheritance," with land of the most valuable kind, water sufficient to grind three hundred bushels the dryest day ever known, and prophesies that the place "is and must be a place of great trade." In 1798 he effected a sale to Moses Arnold and John Harris, of Rhode Island. In 1800 Arnold's share of this purchase was sold to Jeremiah and Nehemiah Knight, of Cranston. "Knight & Harris" ran the various mills and works for a few years, under the superintendence of Mr. Nehemiah Knight, afterward governor of Rhode Island. A store was now opened in one of the three Cargill houses. Some local improvements were accomplished by Mr. Knight, who beguiled his lonely hours in this isolated valley by laying out "a solitary walk" on the tongue of land between Quinebaug and Mill rivers. This walk, rechristened "Solitaire," was long a favorite rural resort. Captain Cargill removed to Palmer, Mass., with his widowed daughter and the remnant of their families, but his name and memory were long preserved.

While for a hundred years the vicinity of Quinebaug High Falls was widely known as a crossing place, fishery and mill site, it had few residents and fewer school and religious privileges. Its scattered families attended church and school in whichsoever of the three towns they chanced to be located. During the rev-

olutionary war a strong Baptist element developed, through the labors and influence of President Manning of Brown University. A Baptist society was organized in the Quinebaug valley, taking in residents of Pomfret and Killingly. Reverend Mr. Kelley labored with them as a pastor, holding services in convenient residences, which were well attended and productive of much good. One of the rooms in Captain Cargill's mill was used for a Baptist meeting room. Mr. Manning was very anxious to establish a Latin school in this valley, to serve "as a nursery for the college," foreseeing its probable development.

Methodism met with equal favor. As early as 1792 a noted Methodist itinerant, John Allen, was allowed to hold a religious meeting in Cargill's press room. His plain and pungent preaching struck conviction to the hearts of the hearers. A number of young women professed conversion, and soon were gathered into a class. They were joined by three young men—Elijah Bugbee, William Gary and Noah Perrin. The latter was appointed class leader, and opened the hospitable Perrin house for public services. Pomfret was included in New London circuit, and made a regular preaching station. A number of respectable families joined with the Methodists—the Sabins, with their grand voices, Perrins, Garys, Cadys, Bucks, etc. Wonderful meetings were held in the Perrin house and Cargill's meeting room. The Methodist singing and the fervid exhortations and prayers carried everything before them. In 1795 Pomfret circuit was formed, with 169 professed Methodists; Jesse Lee, presiding elder; Daniel Ostrander and Nathaniel Chapin, preachers. Though meeting much opposition from the established churches upon the hill-tops, the Methodists continued to gain ground in the valley, and became an element of much power.

Killingly hill was now an important center, with its reconstructed meeting house and military gatherings, its common being one of the amplest and finest in the county. Doctor Robert Grosvenor, now established there in medical practice, was the leading physician and surgeon. Justice Sampson Howe had opened its first store. Its tavern was kept by Captain Aaron Arnold.

Putnam's cotton manufacture dates back to remote periods, the factory opened by Mr. Smith Wilkinson below the High Falls of the Quinebaug, in 1807, being the first of the kind in Windham county, and one of the first in Connecticut. Experi-

menters in Rhode Island had succeeded after much labor and trouble in constructing machines for spinning cotton by water power. Ozias Wilkinson and his ingenious sons had established a factory in Pawtucket, in 1798, and then sought a wider field of enterprise. The Quinebaug Falls and valley was the site selected, and the Pomfret Manufacturing Company formed January 1st, 1806. Its constituent members were Ozias Wilkinson, his sons, Abraham, Isaac, David, Daniel and Smith Wilkinson, his sons-in-law, Timothy Green and William Wilkinson, and James, Christopher and William Rhodes. James Rhodes, of Warwick, R. I., had previously purchased of John Harris a half interest of his share of the Cargill property. All this interest, with the remainder of the privilege and much other land in the vicinity both sides the river, were now secured by the Pomfret Manufacturing Company, and its charge and the care of building the projected factory, and superintending the various works, entrusted to the youngest brother, Mr. Smith Wilkinson, who soon proved himself master of the situation.

The lonely vale, with its rocky hills and heavy forests, rang with the busy clatter of the numerous workmen. With happy forethought Mr. Wilkinson selected the Fourth of July for raising the frame of the factory, when a great concourse of people from all the adjoining towns came together to help about the work and satisfy their curiosity in regard to this novel enterprise. The work of building and reconstruction went rapidly forward. The "solitary walk" laid out by Mr. Knight was less attractive to the young manager than a brisk ride to Killingly hill, where he found agreeable society in the hospitable home of Captain Sampson Howe. In a few months he married Miss Elizabeth Howe, and began housekeeping in a small house* east of the river. Machinery and all needful appurtenances were hauled up from Providence, and on April 1st, 1807, the first cotton factory in eastern Connecticut was set in motion—a four story wooden building, 100 by 32 feet in dimensions. Its business was to spin cotton yarn to be woven on hand looms into coarse cloth and bed-ticking. Its working force was a few children picked up in the neighborhood, with a man in each room to help and oversee them. The boys and girls were delighted with the new employment, and thought the glittering machines "the prettiest things in the world." When a heavy snow storm

*Site now occupied by Putnam Bank.

blocked the roads one morning the little girls put on men's boots and waded through the drifts in their eagerness to work. They were paid about seven shillings a week.

The children were not alone in rejoicing over the new industry. To the women who wove the cloth it was a boon beyond expression. It is hard to realize the scarcity of money in those days, especially in farming families, when produce was cheap, markets few, business openings rare and wages low. The privilege of earning things for themselves was thus most joyfully welcomed by hundreds of active women. A store promptly opened by the company, offered all manner of useful and ornamental articles in exchange for weaving. Women of every rank, the well-to-do as well as the poor, hastened to avail themselves of this golden opportunity. The impulse given by the new mill was felt in many ways. Many workmen were needed for teaming, farming, mill tending, house building and other purposes. The grain mill was kept busily at work. A handsome house opposite the mill was soon built by Mr. Wilkinson, for his own residence, and other houses for operatives and new residents.

So rapid was the increase of population that in 1812 Mr. Wilkinson found it needful to build a school house for his village. A neat brick building was erected on a steep hill east of the river, which was also used on Sundays for a house of worship. Though himself a member of the Congregational church at Killingly hill, and a regular attendant upon its service, Mr. Wilkinson was on friendly terms with all other denominations, and most willingly accorded them the use of the school house. The Methodists held service every alternate Sabbath for some years, under the charge of the Thompson circuit preacher. On other Sundays the Baptists "held the fort," under Elders Grow, Crosby, Nichols, Ross or Cooper. Reverends Daniel Dow or Elisha Atkins or Eliphalet Lyman would often carry on "a five o'clock meeting" in the brick school house. So sober and substantial was the character of the Pomfret Factory residents that there were but two families in fifteen years which habitually refused church attendance. The singing, according to a trustworthy reporter, was as varied as the sect of the preachers. When the Methodists held service choristers like John M. Sabin and Augustus W. Perrin led such a volume of male and female voices as would shake the rafters of the house and waken the soundest

sleeper. The Baptist singers were led by Artemas Bruce, especially on funeral occasions, and the Congregationalists by Mr. Jedidiah Leavens, unless Mr. Dow preferred to set his own favorite tunes—Windham, Mortality, Florida or Hebron. Sunday was Sunday indeed under Mr. Wilkinson's forcible administration, and any deviation from its proper observance was promptly noted and punished, and even those audacious youngsters who presumed to play ball upon the day of the state fast had the law enforced against them and were made to pay legal fines.

During the war with Great Britain Pomfret factory flourished greatly, making one year a dividend of $36,000. By paying large prices they were able to secure sufficient supplies of cotton from Philadelphia, the large profit more than reimbursing the heavy outlay. Thus solidly established the company met the reverses that followed without embarrassment, and succeeded in introducing power looms and other new methods of labor without serious inconvenience. Continued improvements were made in the village and surrounding country. The factory farms were brought under good cultivation. Mr. Wilkinson took much pride in the great mowing lot near the Upper Falls, and in other parts of his farm. It is said that thirty-five hay-makers might sometimes be seen on a good hay day swinging their scythes in time with each other. Methodical in all things, Mr. Wilkinson once announced "that he had upon count a cock of hay for every day in the year—365." A village cow was taken from house to house every night and morning in summer that all the families might have a supply of new milk. Each tenant had a garden spot for raising his own vegetables, and laid up his own beef and pork for family consumption. Fresh meat was brought in occasionally by farmers as they slaughtered, and meat, milk and ice carts were all unknown in those primitive days.

Upon the request of Mr. Wilkinson, a road was laid by the selectmen of Thompson from the old road over Parks hill direct to the village in 1818. The town voted to accept the road as laid out and also voted, "That it is the sense of the town that the old road from Pomfret Factory, until it intersects the above reported road, be discontinued." Bundy's bridge was newly covered and a new road laid out to the Brick Factory. Sufficient travel passed through the village to support a respectable tavern under the old yew tree at the west end of Cargill's block. Mal-

achi Green is remembered among its landlords. In 1823 a new stone building was erected, to be used for the manufacture of woolen goods. Its foundations were laid by Asa White, a veteran mill constructor, who had overseen the building of some of the first factories in New England, but who died while this was in progress. In 1826 Mr. Wilkinson became chief proprietor, as well as manager, associating with Mr. James Rhodes in place of the former company. The new stone mill was now used for cotton manufacturing and the old mill for woolen goods. More houses and workmen were demanded and business operations extended. A new interest grew up at the upper privilege, with the building of a brick factory there by Mr. James Rhodes in 1830. Through the good offices of a former resident of this section, we are indebted for an unique Directory, giving a full report of the residents of the old Pomfret Factory between 1815–1830, viz:—

"Smith Wilkinson—agent Pomfret Manufacturing company. Superintendents in their order—Augustus Howe, Thomas Dike, Gen. Reuben Whitman. Overseers of weaving shop—David Whitman, John N. Leavens. Machinists—Eden Leavens, Asa White, James Cunningham, A. Blanchard, Alpheus Chaffee. Blacksmiths—John Phipps, William Phipps, Jonathan Clough. Overseers of carding and repairing—Arthur Tripp, P. Carpenter, Ira Graves, Almon Graves, Benjamin Morris, Jebediah Morris, J. H. Morris, Jr., George Morris, Thomas Chapman, Lyman Lawrence, G. W. Eddy, William Andrews, Welcome Eddy, Benjamin Matthews, Charles Richmond, Joseph Cundall, Obadiah Grinnell, J. Keach, Charles Chaffee, J. Dike, D. Harrington, S. Harrington, Jr. Manager of Picker Mill and general painter —David Hall. Mule spinners—Green Capron, William Johnson, Jonathan Perrin, George B. Carey, Martin Leach. Clothiers and fullers—A. Thompson, J. Basset. House carpenters—Sylvester Stanley, Joseph Heath, Samuel Truesdale, Jr., Asa Park. Blue dyer—Jedidiah Leavens. Bleachers—Ephraim Congden, E. Chase, Jacob Mann. The clerks in the store were James Hopkins, William Arnold, S. Davis Leavens, George Howe, Augustus Wilkinson, Henry Wilkinson, Daniel P. Dew, Horace Whittaker, Edmond Wilkinson, William Warren, Sampson Howe. Clerks in the Domestic department were Lemuel H. Elliott, N. Aldrich, Jedidiah Leavens, Jr., A. W. Perrin. The keepers of the general boarding house were, in order, Stephen Stone, L.

H. Elliott (afterward steward of Brown University), N. Aldrich, Willard Arnold, Asahel Elliott, Benjamin Warren, Eleazer Sabin. The grain miller was Frank Pearce; the saw miller, Isaac Moore; the butcher, J. H. Morris; the cow-herder was Thomas Richmond; the freight-teamer to and from Providence was Joseph Stone, with a yoke of venerable oxen, Bug and Bright, and a younger yoke, beside Hezekiah Converse (a grand bass singer) was farm teamer for many years; his successors were Harvey White and Reuben Hoar. There were 'captain farmers' also—Darius Starr, William Martin, Elliot Hammond. Others in the vicinity who plied the plow, scythe and hoe, while their sons and daughters worked in the mills, were Messrs. Bean, Harrington, Chaffee, Faulkner, Brown, Keach, Cary, Weld, Willard, Herandean, Johnson, Kelley, Gallup, Maserve, Chamberlin. Among those who tried to keep them all with a good understanding (the shoe-makers) were S. Truesdale, A. Plummer, J. Harris, G. Glasco."

There were many families in the vicinity worthy of notice if space permitted. Noah Perrin, Sr., the Methodist class leader, had now succeeded to the ownership of the Perrin farm, and his numerous sons and daughters were much in demand for teaching school in the surrounding region, their united service amounting to some sixty-seven terms. Captain Joseph Buck, a mile east on the Providence road, was a much respected citizen, chorister at the West Thompson Methodist church, the model head of a most worthy and promising family. South on the Pomfret road another large and promising family was growing up in the household of Mr. Abel Dunn. Near them lived the Sawyers, one of the old Pomfret families, with the blind brother with such marvelous instinct and aptitudes. Their neighbors, the Gilberts, Halls and Garys, had all large families, growing up to be useful men and women in widely separated fields. Another noted family in that neighborhood was that of Captain Alfred Holmes, whose children it is said were all well educated and gifted, their home the center of a "brilliant social circle." Captain Eleazer Keith, old Deacon Deamon, Mr. Darius Seamans, were well known residents upon the mountain road northward.

These various families, remote from the centers of the three towns in which they dwelt, were drawn in many ways to Pomfret Factory and more or less identified with its interests. In

the social life of this pioneer "factory village" there was much that was pleasant and enjoyable. The owner and master was a life-time resident, dwelling among his own people, having a personal interest in all their affairs. A bond of common interest and reciprocal regard united employers and employed as one great family—its central hearth the delightful home of Mr. Wilkinson. Probably no house in the three converging towns entertained so much company. Its hospitable doors were always open, and rich and poor alike, county gentry and village operative, received the same cordial welcome. The noble and lovely wife of Mr. Wilkinson was indeed the "mother of the village." In health and in sickness, in weal and woe, all were sure of the warmest sympathy and aid.

The Rhodesville enterprise began with the division of the Bundy privilege at the Upper Falls, which was surveyed and laid out in four divisions of about twenty acres each by Simon Davis, Esq., in 1827. These divisions were then apportioned by lot among the several owners, Abram and Isaac Wilkinson and James Rhodes drawing the two lower privileges, William and Smith Wilkinson the two upper privileges. At this date there were but two houses upon the estate, one on the east side of the river, occupied by Hezekiah Converse, the other on the west side, by the Glasko family. A new dam was soon built and the brick factory completed and ready for work in 1830; Stephen Erwin, of Rhode Island, manager. A row of tenement houses and store building were also constructed; James Bugbee, store-keeper. The operatives were all American. In 1834, the mill narrowly escaped destruction by fire. In 1836, Mr. Nehemiah T. Adams was appointed resident agent and Mr. Leonard Thompson had charge of the store, and was in turn succeeded by Mr. Chauncey Hammett. In 1837, Rhodesville had become so populous that it was constituted school district No. 17, of Thompson, and a school house was built by the company. In the spring of 1841, prosperity was suddenly checked by the burning of the factory building; supposed to be the work of an incendiary. About a hundred persons were then employed by the establishment. The mill was rebuilt under the supervision of Mr. N. T. Adams. The death of Mr. James Rhodes the following year made further changes, and after temporary depression the village entered upon a career of greatly extended prosperity.

In 1835 a road was laid out from Simeon Allen's brick works on the Boston turnpike to the Quinebaug, over the Rhodesville bridge and on east through the South Neighborhood, intersecting the old Woodstock and Thompson turnpike near Sawyer's store, which greatly facilitated the transportation of cotton from Providence. Yet with all the shrewdness and enterprise of the two companies and their managers, the supply of cotton was limited and business operations could not be largely extended. Keen eyes watched with eager interest the experiments in new methods of transportation. Windham county manufacturers noted and encouraged the various schemes for accommodating their own valley, and were prominent among the stockholders of the Norwich & Worcester Railroad Company. The actual opening of the railroad in November, 1839, was joyfully welcomed by business men, though little foreseeing the revolution it would accomplish. The first depot master at the Pomfret Factory was Mr. John O. Fox, removing thither from West Thompson. Amasa Carpenter, from North Woodstock, occupied part of the building, carrying on with Mr. Fox a thriving business in grain and groceries.

Slowly at first business came to the valley. For a year or two there was little apparent movement, and then the tide turned from the hill towns. John O. Fox and Martin Leach were among the first to build dwelling houses on the east side of the street, near the depot. In 1844 a building for stores was erected by Mr. Asa Cutler in the same locality, and first occupied by Lewis K. Perrin, assisted by his brother Charles. The land east of the depot was purchased from Mr. Tully Dorrance, whose wife, Mrs. Sally Dorrance, inherited in the Pomfret Manufacturing Company the right of her deceased father, James Rhodes. Mr. Dorrance therefore owned much valuable land, and also carried on manufacturing in the first old mill built by Mr. Wilkinson. Other Rhode Island manufacturers were now on the field, looking up eligible privileges for prospective enterprises. Hosea Ballou, Allen & Nightingale, M. S. Morse & Co., won the prizes at Rhodesville and soon broke ground for three large factories. With the advent of their masons and carpenters a boom set briskly in. Lafayette Waters, stone mason, who had the charge of much of the stone work in the three mills, bought land in the vicinity and sold out a number of building lots. Houses for dwellings and stores sprang up in various quarters where eligible sites

could be procured. Young men from the hill towns engaged in trade or professional work in the two villages.

The first physician on the ground was Doctor H. W. Hough, who removed his practice from Killingly hill to Pomfret Factory in 1846, buying the first building lot sold by Mr. Smith Wilkinson, on which he soon erected his present residence. He was soon followed by Doctor Thomas Perry, who remained a few years. The first lawyer to open an office was Mr. Harrison Johnson, of Killingly. One of the first merchants was Nathan Williams, of Pomfret, associated for a time with ——— Ely, of Killingly. Manning & Plimpton soon followed on the east side of the river. Both these stores were largely patronized by residents of the hill towns, and business grew and multiplied in true Western style. Doctor Plimpton also engaged in medical practice. Doctor Benjamin Segur opened a drug shop opposite Perrin's store, near the railway crossing. Jeremiah Shumway's tailor shop stood next to Perrin's store, across an alley, and the first saloon, kept by Cyrus Thornton, occupied Perrin's basement. Three churches meanwhile were pushing their way along, striving for precedence and building lots.

The opening of the three great factories in Rhodesville in 1846–47 added some hundreds to the population and gave additional impetus to the growth of the villages. Mr. Wilkinson, now advanced in years, foresaw the future importance of this business center, but did not care to engage in new enterprises. For some years he was much occupied in settling the affairs of the Pomfret Manufacturing Company, making division of its large assets among its few claimants. The general business of the company was now managed by Mr. Edmond Wilkinson, who was also deeply interested in the development of his native valley. Much land was now thrown into market and bought up by eager customers. Mr. Asa Cutler, a shrewd business man and successful manufacturer, was very prominent in this connection, buying land and building many houses. In 1848 he associated with Thomas Dike, John O. Fox and Newton Clark in building a large brick block for stores, with a fine hall above for public purposes. Lafayette Waters had charge of building this block, using 220,000 bricks in its construction. "Quinebaug Hall" was soon followed by a fine new "Quinebaug House,"

built by Mr. Abraham Perrin, the occupant of another pleasant "Perrin farm" on the road to Pomfret.

Several new roads were needed for the accommodation of builders and travelers. One of especial importance—the present Elm street—was laid out by Thompson selectmen in 1847, upon petition from Tully Dorrance and others, viz., "Beginning south side the present road at Rhodesville," thence partly by a bank wall to the southwest corner of the porch of the school house, thence to a corner of the wall east side North Meadow street, thence to a corner of a barnyard belonging to Smith Wilkinson, thence to a post in the corner of a fence, thence to a point where it intersected the Pomfret Factory road. This road brought many new building lots into market, and served as an important link in bringing the villages together. The last road laid out by the Thompson selectmen was the present School street, in 1854, beginning on the south side of the road leading to Thompson, near the new school house, thence on land of Edmond Wilkinson, crossing a corner of Henry Thurber's lot, by land of Martin Leach and Asa Cutler, to the southeast corner of Doctor Henry Hough's lot, on the north side of the Killingly road. But it was found very difficult to procure all the accommodations needed in this rapid development. People were pouring in on every side; new stores and business operations were constantly set in motion, and demand kept pace with expansion.

With all this growth, and bustle and hurry, there was inevitable clashing and jangling. Nothing could have been more complex and unmanageable than this cluster of villages, belonging to three distinct, independent towns, with no central authority to bring and hold them together, and legislate for their best interests. That so much order and harmony existed under such unfavorable circumstances was undoubtedly due in great measure to the early character of the place as developed under the strong hand of Mr. Wilkinson. There was also something in the new spring and impulse, the pleasure of helping up-build a new and vigorous community, that brought the inhabitants into friendly and mutually helpful relations, working together as one man for the good of the whole section. As the inconvenience of the situation became more manifest, various projects of relief were suggested, such as separate voting places, borough privileges, etc., but nothing met the case till the formation of a new, independent town was suggested. Like many other popular

movements, it seems to have started simultaneously from several sources, or if one man suggested this natural solution of a difficult problem, it was assimilated with such avidity that the name of the originator was swallowed up in universal acclamation. Mr. Edmond Wilkinson engaged in carrying out this project with great heartiness, giving freely money, time and influence.

A public meeting of those favoring a new town was promptly held, and an energetic committee appointed, through whose agency a petition was laid before the legislature in May, 1849, showing the difficulties of the situation, and praying that the villages known as Pomfret Depot, Wilkinsonville, Rhodesville, Ballouville and Morse's Village might be incorporated into a new town, made from portions of Thompson, Killingly, Pomfret and Woodstock, and designated as Quinebaug. Indignant representations from the four towns therein named procured a prompt rejection of this presumptuous petition. Opposition but increased the zeal and determination of the new town agitators, and made them more united in effort. New inhabitants coming in caught the spirit of the contest, and joined with the older citizens in contending for sectional rights and independence. Few battles have been fought in which there was more harmony among the assailants. There were no traitors in the camp. Few if any old town sympathizers were to be found in the villages, but in the outlying country demanded by the new town there were many who objected strongly to any change in their municipal relations, whose names swelled the mammoth memorials gathered by its opponents.

Leaving out Harrisville from the prospective town, in 1851 petition was renewed for parts of Thompson, Killingly and Pomfret. Again they were beaten, though evidently gaining the ear of the general public. The old towns perceiving the fiery spirit that animated their youthful adversary, roused themselves to greater effort. Their strongest men, their sharpest lawyers were retained as committees and agents. An actor reports: "Each Legislature was besieged by the friends and opponents of the measure; lobby members reaped a golden harvest; much other business was seriously embarassed by this bitter and useless strife; party politics was invoked on both sides; to the democrats it was going to make a whig town and leave the old towns hopelessly whig, a result to be fearfully dreaded; and to

the whigs it would make a democratic town, and inevitably fix democracy as the ruling power in the old towns, and thus ruin the state and county; to the miserly men the taxes would be increased enormously in both the old and the new towns."

It is hard to realize that so much time, temper and money should have been freely squandered by three intelligent towns in fighting against the inevitable. Taking Putnam for name and watchword in 1854, after a brief suspension of hostilities, the new town champions battled on to victory. The rise of the know-nothing party and the election of Mr. Sidney Deane as representative hastened the inevitable result, and the Goliath of conservatism fell before the youthful representative of energy and progress. The final hearing of the case, May, 1855, excited unusual interest in the state. Very able counsel was employed on both sides. The closing arguments and pleas were offered in one of the largest halls in Hartford, which was crowded with eager listeners. Hon. Charles Chapman made a forcible appeal n behalf of the old towns. He was answered by Windham county's special orator and advocate, ex-Governor Chauncey F. Cleveland, a life-long democrat in the true sense of the word, the friend of the people and of everything relating to the highest good and development of individuals and communities, who had been deeply interested in this unequal struggle, and now surpassed himself in his most earnest pleas that the petitioners should be allowed their reasonable request for expansion and town privileges. Six years of arduous conflict were rewarded by triumphant victory, and liberty to embody as a distinct town was at length heartily accorded. Ringing bells and booming cannon bore the joyful tidings to the ears of conquerors and defeated, and the Fourth of July celebration held a few days later in Putnam village, had a new and vital meaning to its rejoicing participants. While all citizens were interested, and to a degree helpful, the main burthen was borne by the van-leader, Mr. Edmond Wilkinson, who planned and carried out details from the beginning to the end, and paid five-sixths of the legal expenses.

The first town meeting was held at Quinebaug Hall, July 3d, 1855. George Warren, Esq., served as moderator. James W. Manning was chosen town clerk and treasurer; George Warren, Horace Seamans, Luther Hopkins, selectmen; Asa Cutler, agent of town deposit fund and treasurer of the same; Alanson Her-

andean, Moses Chandler, Erastus Torrey, Abel Dresser, Jr., grand jurors; Abiel L. Clarke, constable. Sign posts or bulletin boards were ordered to be set up, one near the depot, one at Sawyer's store, one at South Putnam, and others at any suitable place, and the several books needful for public records were ordered.

CHAPTER XXXI.

THE TOWN OF PUTNAM—(Concluded).

Officers and Statistics.—Layout of Roads and Naming Streets.—Establishment of Churches.—Baptist Church.—Congregational Church.—Methodist Church.—Catholic Church.—Episcopal Church.—Advent Christian Church.—Other Religious Societies.—Schools.—Cotton Manufactures.—Pomfret Factory Woolen Co.—Silk Manufactures.—Shoe Manufacture.—Artisans and Mechanics.—Business Men's Association.—Village Development.—Various Manufacturing Enterprises.—Creamery.—Water Works.—Commercial Houses.—Business Blocks.—Hotels.—Banks.—Fire Department.—Fraternal Societies.—Celebrations.—Temperance Movements.—Library Association.—Newspapers.—Orchestral Music.—Antique Art Loan Exhibition.—Village Cemetery.—Other Burial Grounds.—Old Killingly Hill, now Putnam Heights.—East Putnam.—Its Local Institutions.—Biographical Sketches.

AS we have already seen, the town of Putnam was incorporated in May, 1855. After incorporation and organization the town set to work to adjust the many perplexing questions which naturally confront a new corporation just starting out upon its voyage of existence. Settlement with mother towns was amicably effected within a few months. Nine and a half square miles and 1,876 inhabitants had been taken from Thompson; seven and a half square miles and 275 inhabitants from Killingly; three square miles and 168 inhabitants from Pomfret. The population of the new town was thus 2,319, of which about three-fourths were included in the village. The prescribed bounds were run by competent surveyors from the respective towns and confirmed by town authorities. Putnam's share of the property of the several towns, the school deposit fund and other funds, together with her proportion of public poor, were promptly made over, and its various affairs were soon settled upon a satisfactory basis. Lucian Carpenter was appointed sealer of weights and measures. It was voted that the number of selectmen, assessors and board of relief should be three each; of grand jurymen, four. October 1st, the town was called to vote upon its first constitutional amendment—"That

every person shall be able to read any article of the state constitution before being admitted as elector." The votes cast were 153—88 in favor, 65 against the amendment. On the same day the town held its first annual meeting and completed its quota of town officers. Assessors chosen were Seth Babbitt, Eli R. Davis, Warren W. White; board of relief, Benjamin Brayton, Richmond Bullock, Daniel Alton; selectmen, Horace Seamans, Walter S. Burlingame, Chandler A. Spalding; town clerk, treasurer and registrar, James W. Manning; constables, Riley Smith, Archibald Kennedy; fence viewers, David Clark, Lucius E. Sawyer, Dan Cutler; grand jurors, Alanson Herandean, George E. A. Bugbee, Erastus Torrey, Abel Dresser, Martin Leach; sealer of weights and measures, Lucian Carpenter; pound keeper, Riley Page; haywards, Charles Pike, Prosper Bundy, Horace Cutler, Olney Whipple, Elliott Carpenter, George Perry, Palmer Hide; agent of town deposit fund, Asa Cutler. The assessors were ordered to make an equal assessment of every person's property according to actual value without reference to old abstracts—George Buck, George Warren, Richmond Bullock, auditors of accounts. Rooms in the Brick Block were to be hired for public meetings. The first justices chosen April 1st, 1856, were Horace Seamans, Hiram A. Brown, Henry C. Reynolds, Warren W. White. The first representative was Richmond M. Bullock. A probate court was constituted the same year and justice Horace Seamans unanimously elected judge.

Thus legally established and provided with competent officers, Putnam went bravely onward, preeminently the modern town of northeastern Connecticut, booming with life, hope and energy, rejoicing in its admirable location and manufacturing and railroad facilities. From its first starting it had the good fortune to draw from the surrounding sections young men of sterling character and active business habits, who identified themselves with the interests of the town, and gave their best energies to its upbuilding and development. As in earlier years "God sifted three kingdoms to furnish seed for the planting of New England," so some of the best elements of three substantial towns were enwrought into the foundations of Putnam. Its subsequent growth has kept pace with this favorable beginning. Built up mainly by the gradual accession of men of moderate means and large energies, this growth has been healthful and natural, till now it stands among the leading inland towns of

New England, in many respects a model among modern manufacturing and railroad towns—its distinguishing characteristic a large-hearted and aggressive public spirit, ever ready to make sacrifice of self for the good of the public. Its population at the latest count was nearing seven thousand; grand list, $1,995,008. For thirty-four years it has had the good fortune to retain as town clerk, treasurer and registrar the man who received the first choice of its voters, James W. Manning. Selectmen in 1888: Omer La Rue, Lawson I. Bowen, Walter P. White; assessors, Charles D. Torrey, Prescott Bartlett, Peter M. Le Clair; board of relief, Patrick O'Leary, Warren W. White, John S. D. Grant; grand jurors, Louis Elontie, Edward Fly, John R. Cogswell, Lebbeus E. Smith; constables, Milo P. Corbin, Byron W. Carpenter, William H. Longdon, Edward De Croner, George B. Ingraham; haywards, 1. Fred Cutler; 2. William R. Holland; 3. David E. Clark; 4. M. O. Bowen; 5. William A. Pearson; 6. Ashael Batty; 8. Walter White; auditors of town accounts, Samuel R. Spalding, William A. Pearson. The running expenses of the town for the year ending August 31st, 1888, were $30,000. Like other modern towns with lofty aspirations Putnam has been compelled to cumber itself with a debt in carrying out the various improvements that have seemed imperatively needful, whose interest is a heavy item in annual expenditure. Among the extras of 1888 were some $700 expended in clearing the roads of snow, after the famous March blizzard.

Putnam, as previously hinted, has been greatly exercised by the uncertain laying out of some of its first roads. By untiring effort these difficulties have been in a great measure surmounted, old streets widened and new ones laid out where needful. Among her notable achievements has been the clearing up, laying out and transformation of the hills east of the village, which in 1855 were still reposing in aboriginal rudeness, covered with rock and forest. One of the first to aid in the transformation of Oak hill was Mr. Ebenezer Farrows, who purchased wild land on the east side of Oak hill, together with a boggy swamp eastward. By hard labor in draining this swamp and clearing the brush, Mr. Farrows prepared the way for human habitation. A street that bears his name now runs from Ring street to Walnut street, continuing thence over what were formerly the wooded heights of Shippee hill. Handsome dwelling houses, "beautiful for situation," adorn the various streets crowning

Oak hill. Many public spirited citizens have aided in this work of transformation, clearing off the road, digging out rocks, making ready for the laying out of convenient streets. An angle long left to disreputable rubbish, has been lately purified, reconstructed and built up with tasteful dwellings, through the enterprise of Doctor Miller. Even the historic "Dow's Grove," with all its serious and mirthful associations, its memories of religious meetings, band concerts and rink skating, has been forced to bow before the ruthless hand of progress. Purchased by one most prominent in the later building up of the town at a recent date, it is already reclaimed, graded, laid out into handsome streets and a large number of eligible building lots, offering ample accommodations for many present and prospective residents.

As soon as it became manifest to the "gathering multitude" that the villages in the vicinity of Pomfret Factory were to be consolidated into one comprehensive organism, plans were set on foot for the establishment of churches. The old inhabitants of Pomfret Factory were distinctively meeting goers, faithfully attending service in the adjacent churches, and greatly enjoying the religious gatherings in their own school house. As Rhodesville grew up and both villages increased in population it was most interesting to see the families and foot travelers starting off on a fair summer morning for West Thompson, Pomfret and Killingly. The Baptists, first in the field, probably led in numbers, many of them being members of the Pomfret Baptist church. Reverend Benjamin Congdon, a son of this church, and then its faithful and devoted pastor, encouraged the church members in the valley in their efforts to maintain stated worship among themselves. A humble petition that the mother church "would, by a vote, delegate to us all the authority and privileges of a branch of your body," was kindly received, and on January 17th, 1847, the branch was duly constituted, it being understood that such a body could exercise all the powers of an independent church, except that of disciplining and excluding members. Harrison Johnson was chosen clerk; Elliott Carpenter and William Johnson to assist in the administration of the Lord's Supper. Meetings were held alternately at the brick and Rhodesville school houses; Reverend Lucius Holmes of Thompson, a promising young minister, serving as pulpit supply, while the probable cost and location of a meeting house was discussed

and canvassed. Mr. Holmes was hired to preach for a year, but ere long it was found that he had adopted Universalist sentiments.

Having thus virtually lost minister and place of worship, the persevering Baptists repaired for service to the passenger room in the depot. The committee appointed "To see if a sufficient sum of money could be raised to build a new house of worship," reported in its favor, and after much discussion between the advocates of rival sites, it was voted by a majority of *one*, "To locate on the western side of the river," on land given to the church by Messrs. Smith and Edmond Wilkinson. David Clark, Rhodes G. Allen, Doctor Henry W. Hough, William Johnson and Reverend D. D. Lyon were appointed building committee.

After obtaining dismission from the Pomfret church, it was voted, August 30th, 1847, "To form ourselves into an independent church." David Clark, Elliott Carpenter, Amos Carpenter, Jarad Chollar were chosen church committee; Harrison Johnson, clerk and treasurer. Reverend D. D. Lyon served as supply during the year, working "with his own hands on the foundation of the building," soliciting funds, baptizing new converts, and was succeeded by Reverend Solomon Gale.

May 30th, 1848, was a memorable day in the history of the church. An ecclesiastic council, held at the house of R. G. Allen, welcomed the Wilkinson Baptist church into the fellowship of Baptist churches, and the new house of worship was formally dedicated. Sermons were preached by Reverends Charles Willett and J. Swan. David Clark and Elliott Carpenter were confirmed in the office of deacon. In the following May Mr. Gale was succeeded by the Reverend Allan Darrow, a man of experience and strong character, well adapted to guide a young church in a growing community. The office of clerk and treasurer was held successively by Jared Chollar, Dwight T. Meech, Arthur Tripp, James W. Manning, Ezra D. Carpenter, Joseph Lippitt. The membership of the church constantly increased, embracing many active, devoted, faithful brethren and sisters. Reverend Charles Willett succeeded to the pastorate in 1854, another strong and influential minister, leaving deep impress upon the life and character of his hearers. His successor, in 1857, was Reverend W. C. Walker, a man of lovely spirit and great earnestness, who labored with signal success during the memorable revival of 1857-58, and received many into church membership. His earnest patriotism and great popularity with the soldiers led him to ac-

cept the chaplaincy of the 18th Connecticut regiment, a position which he filled with great usefulness and acceptance. Mr. Willett, "without a dissenting voice," resumed his former charge.

The first meeting house had now become too small for the congregation, and was enlarged and remodelled. J. W. Manning and G. W. Carver were elected deacons in 1865, "to assist their aged brethren in the spiritual concerns of the church." Mr. Willett resigned his position in October, 1872, and was followed in November by Reverend B. F. Bronson, D.D., a veteran pastor, highly esteemed throughout the Baptist denomination. In the following February the Baptist meeting house was destroyed by fire. Immediate efforts were made to replace it by a more substantial and commodious structure. Mr. Rhodes Allen and others who had helped build the first sanctuary, were equally ready to give and labor for the second. Mr. George M. Morse, Deacon Manning and many others gave largely of their substance, and on May 16th, 1874, the beautiful house was ready for dedication. The interesting services were conducted by Doctor Bronson. Prayers were offered by the former pastors, Mr. Willett and Chaplain Walker. The sermon was preached by Mr. Davies of Norwich, in place of Doctor Lorrimor, detained by illness. In 1875 George M. Morse and Frederick E. Lovering were added to the number of deacons. Charles N. Allen succeeded Mr. Lippitt as clerk and treasurer. Doctor Bronson continued in charge till 1881, and was greatly valued as a man of broad and catholic spirit as well as fervent piety, of high culture, fine taste and much versatility. Reverend J. R. Stubbert entered upon the pastorate April 1st, 1882.

A commodious parsonage was now provided on land given by Deacon G. M. Morse. In 1887 M. L. Aldrich was chosen clerk, and George A. Smith, treasurer. At the same date the pews were declared free, and the church to be supported by the voluntary contributions of the people. For more than forty years the Baptist church of Putnam has ably fulfilled an important mission, and made itself a power in a rapidly developing community. Many revivals have been enjoyed, adding largely to its membership. Much aggressive work has been successfully carried forward. The Sabbath school connected with the church is very flourishing, embracing 584 members. The present membership of the church is over five hundred.

Congregationalists closely followed Baptists in effort and organization. Residents of the valley had been long connected

with the old church on Killingly hill, afterward recognized as the First Congregational church of Putnam, and many of the new inhabitants were members of other Congregational churches. Two ministers in the vicinity, foreseeing the importance of the position and believing that a church of the Congregational polity might be sustained, laid the matter before the Windham County Association of Ministers in 1847. That body appointed Reverend George Tillotson, of Brooklyn (son-in-law of Mr. Wilkinson), to devote four or five Sabbaths, and as much intervening time as was practicable, in surveying the field and awakening interest. The brick school house was secured for stated services upon the Sabbath. Reverend E. B. Huntington labored as missionary. July 9th, 1848, a church was organized in the brick school house, with twenty-seven members, nine of them males, dismissed from twelve churches. Nathan Williams and Amherst Robinson were chosen deacons. Mr. Huntington was installed pastor in November, 1848.

The church gained steadily, but did not think it wise to agitate the question of building a house of worship, and Quinebaug Hall was used for that purpose. A building lot on the corner of Main and Pomfret streets was given to the society by Messrs. Wilkinsons and Dorrance, and here a small church edifice was built, and dedicated January 15th, 1852. Mr. Huntington had been then succeeded by Reverend J. Leonard Corning, an able and attractive preacher, soon demanded by churches of larger promise. The pulpit was supplied by Reverend Sidney Deane and Reverend J. R. Johnson until 1856, when a change of base had been effected and the church recognized as the Second Congregational church of Putnam. The impulse given in the creation of the new town extended quickly to the churches. During the ministry of Reverend Eliakim Phelps the number of church members steadily increased, and during the great revival of 1858 many were gathered in. Reverend George Tillotson entered upon the pastorate March 10th of that year, when the church numbered about one hundred members. Year by year gain was made in numbers, efficiency and liberality. Ere long the congregation had outgrown the place of worship, and the site of the present church edifice was secured. The former lot was sold, and an ample and convenient church building erected, and dedicated April 28th, 1870. The membership of the church was then increased to over two hundred. December 20th, Rev-

erend Thomas M. Boss was installed as pastor, and served for six years with zeal and efficiency. A quarter-century commemoration was observed the second Sabbath of July, 1873, when a very interesting historical discourse was given by Mr. Boss. Reverend E. B. Huntington, first pastor of the church, assisted in the service, and reminiscences were related in the evening exercises by older members of the church. A system of rules for the ordering of the church was adopted during the pastorate of Mr. Boss.

Records and minutes of church affairs were unfortunately destroyed in the great fire. Mr. Boss was dismissed in 1876, and succeeded by Reverend C. S. Brooks, installed May 29th, 1877, who continued in service ten years, during which period the church maintained steady growth and prosperity. The present pastor, Reverend A. D. Love, was installed July 20th, 1887, and entered upon his work with great earnestness. The present membership of the church is 328. Messrs. Myron Kinney, E. M. Wheaton, T. P. Botham and F. W. Perry serve as deacons; J. Davenport, clerk; H. N. Fenn, treasurer; S. H. Seward, superintendent of Sunday school, which enrolls some 300 members. Sunday schools are also carried on at Harrisville and in Sawyer's district, numbering about a hundred pupils. Regular preaching services are held in these districts and at Putnam Heights.

Methodists had long been prominent in the Quinebaug valley, holding services in Cargill's mill house, Perrin's dwelling house and later in the brick school house. The first Methodist camp meeting in eastern Connecticut was held in Perrin's Grove in 1808, and many other famous meetings were held in the same locality. "Dow's Grove," lately Mechanics' Park, received its first name from a service held therein by the noted Lorenzo Dow, who finding the brick school house already occupied by Elder Grow and the Baptist brethren, drove on into the woods on the Killingly road, hung his hat upon a twig and began preaching or rather reciting poetry. Yet so numerous in the vicinity, Methodists were slow in establishing regular worship and removing their relationship from the West Thompson church. The mile or two was of little consequence in those days when worshippers were accustomed to Sabbath days' journeying, and the Thompson society was strong and vigorous, with the best of Methodist singing and preaching. It was not

till Putnam had become a town that measures were taken for providing a Methodist house of worship. Land was loaned by the Nightingale Manufacturing Company and building initiated.

A number of Methodist brethren and sisters, mostly members of the West Thompson church, organized as a distinct body June 25th, 1858, Reverend L. B. Bates officiating. Worship was maintained in Morse's Hall till the opening of the new church edifice. Dedication services were held December 30th, conducted mainly by Elders Ramsdell and Bates. In 1859 Elder C. S. Sanford served as pastor, when the membership had reached over a hundred. Reverends H. W. Conant, G. W. Brewster, James Mather, John Lovejoy, Robert Clarke, L. D. Bentley, James Thomas, A. N. Bodfish, E. F. Jones, W. P. Stoddard, L. P. Cansey, James Tregaskis, George H. Butler, have served successively as pastors of this church. An interesting historical discourse was prepared by Mr. Clarke in 1868. All debts were then paid and the society flourishing. The present pastor is Reverend Wilbur C. Newell; church membership, 110; Sunday school members, 90.

Putnam, like other modern manufacturing towns, embraces now a large foreign element. In the former days of "Pomfret Factory and Rhodesville," masters and workmen were alike of New England stock, descended mainly from old Puritan families, to whom the very name of Catholic was the embodiment of false doctrine and usurped authority. The advent of the first French Canadian, Peter Donough, in 1843, with a large family of children, their foreign tongues and outlandish ways, excited much curiosity and interest. Other Canadians followed with troops of children, and after the opening of the three great factories in 1848, foreign operatives were very generally employed. Reverend Michael McCabe was sent by the Catholic bishop of Connecticut to look after these wandering sheep and hold religious services. For a time most of these foreigners only staid to earn a little money and take it back to Canada, but as their numbers multiplied a portion became permanent residents.

Holy Mass was now celebrated monthly in Quinebaug Hall, and an acre of land purchased for religious purposes. Putnam parish, as then constituted, embraced also Pomfret, Woodstock and Thompson. Reverend William E. Duffy, Pascoag, R. I., was placed in charge as a missionary in 1858, and in the following

year laid the foundation of the first Catholic house of worship in northeastern Connecticut. It was a small wooden structure, costing when completed a little over two thousand dollars, but was considered quite an achievement for this migratory and scattered population. Little progress was made till the advent of Reverend Eugene J. Vygen, in 1865, a newly ordained minister from Belgium, consecrated to missionary work in the United States. Sent to administer the sacraments to the Catholics of Putnam, he was greatly moved by the spiritual destitution of the people. Without resident priest, schools or burial ground, it was no marvel that "scandals became frequent and the Church of God suffered." The keen-eyed young missionary saw at a glance the great capabilities of the field. Some half-dozen large cotton manufactories in Putnam and Thompson were bringing in hundreds of Catholic families. Putnam village gave promise of becoming an important business center, and was the natural church home of this increasing Catholic population. With much earnestness Father Vygen laid the need and opportunity before the bishop of the diocese, and was allowed to enter upon the Putnam pastorate.

The result has far more than realized his most sanguine anticipations. Giving his whole time and energies to the work, within two years he had secured the laying out and consecration of a convenient Catholic cemetery, purchased other land, and erected a pastoral residence, and fused the scattered elements into a united and reverent congregation. Before proceeding to erect a worthy church edifice he returned to Europe and gathered aid from many friends, and then entered upon this great work with redoubled energy and enthusiasm. The wooden structure was soon replaced by a substantial brick building, with trimmings of light gray granite. Its interior was very fine, fitted up with much care and taste. The altar was "a gem of art," adorned with angels wrought in Munich, "of the highest order of art, ideality and beauty." Above and back of the altar were three stained glass windows. The semi-dome over-arching the altar was divided into five panels, colored in deep blue and studded with gold stars; in each was the representation of an adoring angel, each carrying an emblem of the passion of our Lord. The first carries the crown of thorns; the second the cross; the third the palm of victory; the fourth the chalice; the fifth carrying wheat, significant of the Eucharist. Pulpit and organ were

in keeping. This beautiful structure, capable of seating fifteen hundred people, was formally consecrated as St. Mary's church, by Right Reverend Bishop McFarland, November 24th, 1870, and for nearly five years had served the purposes of its construction, receiving thousands of joyful worshippers, when almost in a moment it was reduced to ashes. So rapid was the fire that not one of its valued treasures was rescued—library, organ, altar, chalice, were all consumed. The building with its contents was valued at $85,000. With his accustomed energy Father Vygen at once commenced the erection of a chapel, celebrating mass on Sundays meanwhile at Quinebaug Hall. November 1st, 1876, St. Joseph's Hall was dedicated by Right Reverend Bishop Galberry—a neat and tasteful building in the rear of the blackened ruins, furnishing seats for eight hundred people. The erection of Catholic church edifices in other towns has somewhat diminished the number of regular attendants at Putnam, so that this hall has continued to accommodate the congregation. In 1873 Reverend H. Martial, afterward the much-beloved and respected pastor of Grosvenor Dale parish, was appointed assistant of Father Vygen. Reverends Thomas P. Joynt, Alphonse Van Oppen and Edward Chapdelaine have also served as curates. Father E. J. Vygen*, now the senior minister in Putnam, is much beloved by his people and respected by all for his consistent Christian character and faithful labors in behalf of temperance, morality and all salutary enterprises.

A recent survey of Putnam, accomplished under the direction of the Connecticut Bible Society, gives the following denominational statistics:

Advent families	29.	Individuals	105.
Baptist "	194.	"	825.
Congregational families	162.	"	529.
Episcopal families	17.	"	74.
Methodist "	68.	"	248.
Roman Catholic families	593.	"	3,135.
Universalist families	34.	"	115.
Scattering families	11.	"	31.

The number of Catholic families and individuals thus considerably exceeds those of all other denominations combined. In regard to nationalities, the report shows: American families, 588; individuals, 2,198. French families, 464; individuals, 2,604. Irish families, 105; individuals, 433. English families, 21; in-

*Father Vygen died in October, 1889.—*Ed.*

dividuals, 109. Others, nine families with fifteen members. The Catholic church grounds include the ruins of St. Mary's church, St. Joseph's Hall, a convent, school house, parsonage, gas building, music stand, park, flower garden. They also have laid out and own St. Joseph's Park upon the Quinebaug, south of the village, a part of the old Perrin farm. Within the last twenty years there has been a great change in the character and standing of the "foreign element." It is more and more manifest that it has come to stay. Children of these families growing up in the town are truly citizens. Many own their own homes and farms, engage in agriculture and trade, and are identified in many ways with the growth and development of the town, sharing in the administration of government. Very interesting services have recently been held in Putnam in commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of Father Vygen's ordination. Jubilee services began Monday evening, April 1st, at Exhibition Hall, when all the societies connected with the church were present in regalia, with all the school children, members of the boarding school and hundreds of spectators. A brilliant procession accompanied the Reverend Father to the church the next morning, where high mass was performed, Bishop McMahon and a dozen priests assisting. More than twenty Catholic clergymen were present on this occasion. A vast audience filled Exhibition Hall, where an ovation was given by the young ladies of the convent school, consisting of music, song and addresses. Very interesting congratulatory and historic addresses were made by Doctor La Rue in behalf of the Canadian element of the parish, and by Mr. Patrick O'Leary in behalf of the Irish. In summing up the results of twenty-three years' faithful labor, it was noted that in 1866 the whole property of the Catholic church in this section was one little wooden building with the site on which it stood, while in 1889 it numbers five churches, five priests, two convents and two large parochial schools.

Regular Episcopal services were established in Putnam in November, 1868, under charge of Reverend J. W. Clark, now rector of St. James' church, Washington, D. C. These services were held in Brown's Hall during the erection of St. Philip's chapel, on Elm street. The corner stone of this edifice was laid with appropriate ceremonies, October 18th, 1870, and the house opened for worship February 24th, 1874, Bishops Williams, of Connecticut, and Paddock, of Massachusetts, and other noted cler-

gymen assisting in the exercises. About a hundred families have been connected with this parish, of whom a considerable number are residents of neighboring towns. Reverend J. W. Clark was succeeded in 1876 by Reverend E. Jessup, who was followed successively by Reverends P. H. Whaley, W. F. Bielby and A. P. Chapman. The present imcumbent is Reverend T. H. Church. The seatings in the church are free.

An Advent Christian church was organized in 1870, Reverend D. Matthewson pastor. This church has erected a neat chapel and maintains stated services. Its pastor is an earnest and faithful laborer.

September 12th, 1887, Universalists organized as a distinct church, holding services in the hall of the Grand Army of the Republic. Reverend D. L. R. Libby serves as its pastor. Trustees of the parish are: Orrin Morse, chairman; J. F. Weatherhead, clerk; Marvin Barrett, treasurer; H. P. Benner, R. B. Stroud, Irwin H. Roberts.

Spiritualists maintained stated services for a number of years, but are now disbanded.

Putnam enjoys a peculiar religious institution in what is known as the "Holiness Prayer Meeting," carried on year after year in Morse's Hall, with ever-increasing interest. Christians of various denominations and towns, pledged to higher life and deeper spiritual consecration, have found these union meetings a special means of grace to themselves and the source of unmeasured blessings to many sympathizing attendants.

Schools received immediate care from the fathers of Putnam. Their first meeting as a school society was held at Quinebaug Hall, July 9th, 1855. Moses Chandler was chosen clerk and treasurer. The first school committee were its honored citizens, Chandler A. Spalding, Richmond M. Bullock and Lucian Carpenter. Reverend Charles Willett, Messrs. Harrison Johnson, G. W. Phillips, W. W. White and Nathan Williams were appointed school visitors; Lucian Carpenter, collector. At the second meeting, September 21st, Messrs. Manning, Willett and B. F. Hutchins were empowered to set out and bound districts. October 6th, a larger number were designated for the important service of investigating and fixing suitable district boundaries, viz., James Allen, William Tourtellote, Alvan D. Potter, Henry Hough, L. Hopkins. Their elaborate report was mainly accepted, and after some minor alterations the bounds were allowed

nearly as at present. Some distant portions of the territory were associated with adjoining districts in other towns. The six districts wholly included in Putnam, after subsequent changes and consolidation, were generally known as: 1, East Putnam; 2, South Neighborhood; 3, Putnam Heights; 4, Gary District; 5, Depot Village; 6, Rhodesville. The first formal school report was presented by Visitors Horace Seamans and Daniel Plimpton in 1859. Number of children then reported in town, 685; number of non-attendants, 196. The expense of maintaining public schools for the year, including repairs of school houses, was nineteen hundred dollars; monthly wages paid to male teachers, $31.27; to female teachers, $16.54. Judge Seamans resigned his position in 1862, after seven years' faithful service, his experience in teaching and deep interest in public education and the growth of the town, giving much weight to his counsel and judgment. Doctor Plimpton succeeded as chairman of the board of visitors. The growth of the schools in the central districts was now very rapid, demanding new school houses and additional teachers. In his careful reports Doctor Plimpton urged with much earnestness the special needs of Putnam village, viz., the consolidation of the two districts, and the establishment of graded schools with suitable high school. This project was warmly discussed, having earnest friends and equally earnest opponents.

In 1866 a vote was carried in town meeting to accept the act of legislature allowing consolidation and a Union school district. Strenuous objections were made at the time, especially from the upper district. At a special town meeting, January 5th, 1867, this vote was rescinded by 93 versus 90. Agitation continued, and zealous efforts on both sides, resulting in what was called "the Sixth District School Fight," an episode in Putnam's history meriting Carlyle's "wise oblivion." A motion from one of the chief opposers of consolidation laid the question on the table by a final vote of 140 versus 111.

Doctor Plimpton was succeeded as chairman of the board of visitors by Reverend G. J. Tillotson, who, like his predecessors, gave much time and thought to the interests of the schools, especially those of the central districts, now numbering 672 of the 838 children. Irregular attendance and lack of accommodation and suitable classification were greatly deplored. In 1869 new buildings were reported, with over a thousand children. Another veteran schoolteacher, Mr. J. J. Green, was now very active

in school affairs, himself instructing adult pupils in a night school. Doctor Bronson and Mr. W. H. Ward also served very efficiently on the school board. As the children of the early residents of the town grew up into maturity the need of higher educational privileges was more vitally apparent. July 25th, 1873, a meeting was called to consider the question of establishing a high school. A motion to dissolve the meeting was lost by a majority of ten. A majority of twelve voted to establish a high school in Putnam. It was further voted to raise $12,000 for school lot and building. Messrs. Manning, Alton, Wheelock, Wilson and Fisher were chosen a committee to discharge all duties relating to the projected school; Messrs. Chamberlain, Houghton, Capen, H. N. Brown, Salem Ballard, committee for site. Land was purchased from Mr. G. M. Morse. Messrs. Phillips, Carpenter, G. M. Morse, Capen and Wheelock were appointed committee for building. A room was hired for school purposes and the high school actually begun during this year. Additional funds were needed for building purposes in the autumn. The prospect of a heavy debt and greatly increased school expenditures was very distasteful to taxpayers in the town, especially to those who had no personal interest in a high school. October 6th the town was again called together, to reconsider the question and rescind previous votes. A majority of 47 authoritatively decided that the school had come to stay; that a public high school had become an imperative necessity. Forty-nine pupils were reported the first term, with Latham Fitch principal, and Ellen Osgood assistant. The school building was dedicated, with appropriate exercises, December 1st, 1874. Superintendent Northrup and other prominent friends of education were present. The number of pupils was then 65—8 from outside the town.

In the fifteen years following this opening the school has been well sustained. Competent and faithful teachers have required and secured a high standard of scholarship. Hundreds of pupils within the limits of the town, and a goodly number of outside pupils, have enjoyed its advantages. Public graduation exercises from year to year have excited much interest. Scholars have gone out fitted for higher seminaries and college, and for various departments of business and usefulness. Graduates and scholars have united in a Putnam High School Association, keeping alive friendship and interest by pleasant "Field-days"

in Roseland Park. At the close of the last school year nine graduates participated in the exercises. The influence of the school has been every way salutary and stimulating. The public schools throughout the town are in good condition. An interesting report is recently given of the closing exercises in Sawyer's district, formerly "District No. 1," of the town of Thompson. Out of forty-two scholars the average attendance was thirty-seven. The number of children reported in Putnam in 1888, between four and sixteen years of age, was 1,558; account for high school, $2,277.82; for district schools, $5,677.45; for night schools, $349.83. School visitors: Lucius H. Fuller, Eric H. Johnson, J. B. Kent, Omer La Rue, Frank H. Church, Darius S. Skinner. Mr. Skinner also serves as truant officer.

Parochial schools are also maintained for the boys and girls of the Catholic parish, under the auspices and superintendence of Father Vygen. The school house was built in 1873, together with a very commodious and ample edifice, designed for a first-class boarding school for young ladies, conducted by Sisters of Mercy. These buildings are on the church grounds, near St. Joseph's Hall and the ruins of St. Mary's church, and are fitted up with great care and taste. Part of the cost was defrayed by the insurance on the burnt cathedral. The schools were opened in April, 1874. At least four hundred pupils attend the parochial schools, and about sixty the boarding school. This school is of a high order, conducted by devoted and accomplished Sisters. The first superior and principal, Sister M. Josephine, a person of high mental attainments, died in 1876. Her successor, M. Paula, is well qualified for the duties of her charge, and young women graduating from this institution sustain a rigid examination with great credit. The admirable discipline and order observed in these schools, the superior and thorough character of the buildings, the beauty of the grounds, testify in the strongest terms to the energy and fidelity of their reverend projector.

The manufacture of cotton goods, the prime element in Putnam's early growth and prosperity, is still its dominant interest, engrossing the largest amount of capital, giving employment to by far the largest number of residents. Rhodesville leads in this manufacture with its mammoth mills and myriad looms. As in former days Mr. Smith Wilkinson stood for the embodi-

ment of manufacturing enterprise, so now one man stands at the head of three large establishments, overseeing the general interests of a business far beyond the highest ideal of previous generations. The Morse mill with its large addition, the fine Powhatan mill erected in 1872, the mills of the former Nightingale Company, including the old Rhodesville mill, are all under the management of the general agent and part proprietor, George M. Morse; G. C. Nightingale, treasurer. A capital of $600,000 is invested in these manufactories. More than nine hundred looms are run, and about eight hundred hands employed. The former Ballou mill passed into the hands of Mr. Edward Cutler, a much respected resident of Putnam, who carried on the establishment for a number of years. He was succeeded by an association of Providence gentlemen, known as the Putnam Manufacturing Company, which after various reverses, still retains the privilege. South of the Falls, on Meadow street, are the fine new buildings of the Monohansett Manufacturing Company for the manufacture of sheetings, established in 1872 —Estus Lamb and George W. Holt, of Providence, proprietors. About 175 hands are employed by this company—George W. Holt, president; A. F. Lamb, treasurer; George W. Holt, Jr., resident agent.

The old Pomfret Factory Woolen Company, which under the management of Mr. M. Moriarty, had been doing a very successful business, was seriously crippled by the failure of a large wool house in New York and after a year's struggle was forced to make an assignment. The present Putnam Woolen Company was organized in 1878; E. A. Wheelock, resident agent and treasurer. This company improves the privilege of the former woolen company in the manufacture of cassimere, employing nineteen sets of machinery and over three hundred hands.

With the influx of new blood and capital several new and promising industries have been established. In this aggressive age the supreme authority of King Cotton has been questioned, and wool, silk, iron, steel and even such down-trodden entities as shoes, assert their claim to equal sovereignty.

The manufacture of silk goods was introduced in Putnam by Messrs. G. A. Hammond and C. C. Knowlton, January 1st, 1878. Land and building on the flat below the falls was procured from Mr. G. M. Morse, one of the contracting parties, and great pains taken with all the initiatory arrangements for this novel enter-

prise. About thirty girls were ready to begin work, attracted by the inherent fascination of silken fabrics for the feminine mind—with a sufficient number of experienced workmen to instruct and aid. With new machinery, skilled labor and unwearied pains the mill was successfully set in motion, and bales of silken filaments from Japan and China wrought into substantial sewing-silk and twist for American use. The process, though not difficult, required a nicety of touch and observation, and many applicants failed to meet these conditions, but in time all difficulties were overcome and many women and girls rejoiced in the establishment of this agreeable and remunerative industry. At the close of their first decade the Putnam Silk Mills report continued progress and prosperity. In 1885 the business had so outgrown accommodations that the old mill was rented and the works and machinery moved into a large three-story building in the same vicinity, furnishing ample room, abundant light and every convenience. About a hundred and twenty-five operatives, including ninety girls, are steadily employed. A visitor to the mills is struck by the order, neatness and apparent cheerfulness of its inmates. The process by which the slender spinnings of the silk worm are transformed into familiar silk and twist and heavy braid is a marvel of mechanical skill and ingenuity. The weekly product is sent immediately to market, through their own agent, no "middle men" being employed by this firm, and the experiment of silk manufacture in Putnam has proved a financial benefit to all concerned.

The shoemaker is not a modern invention. As far back as can be remembered every neighborhood had its local cobbler. Two or three such shoemakers and menders were known in the Quinebaug valley, their shops a famous rendezvous for boys and newsmongers. The first to introduce anything like the modern sale shoe manufacture into Putnam was Reverend Sidney Deane, who had previously served with great acceptance in the Methodist ministry. A man of much versatility and abounding energy, he was especially adapted to the exigencies of the aspiring villages, and encouraged to engage in shoe manufacture in 1852. An ardent champion of the new town interests, he was yet elected representative of Thompson in 1854, on the express understanding that the question of separation was not to be raised at the approaching session of legislature. But unsettled questions persist in asserting themselves on all occasions; "manifest destiny"

hurried matters to a crisis, and Thompson's elected representative carried all before him in a most eloquent appeal in behalf of the new town. The "tide" in Mr. Deane's affairs that set in with his championship of the future Putnam, swept him on to a seat in congress and political life, leaving the shoe manufacture in the hands of one of his assistants, Mr. Charles M. Fisher. "Fisher & Clarke" carried on the business for a year, then Fisher alone for a year. In 1856 Edward T. Whitmore associated with Mr. Fisher, under the firm name of "Fisher & Whitmore," their partnership continuing about eight years.

Great changes were continually made in this manufacture by the introduction of machinery and new modes of working, involving the necessity of larger accommodations and outlay. William G. Tourtellotte was associated for a time with Mr. Fisher, as C. M. Fisher & Co. Thomas P. Botham, Hiram H. Burnham and William D. Case were later partners, who represent the firm since the death of Mr. Fisher, September 30th, 1886. About 120,000 pairs of shoes are annually produced by this firm, employing from eighty to a hundred hands. Steam power is used as far as practicable.

Mr. Whitmore continued in the shoe business, having for a time W. H. Tourtellotte for a partner, and then, with Mr. W. S. Johnson, established the firm of "Whitmore & Johnson," making women's, boy's and misses' boots and shoes. Losing their factory in one of Putnam's destructive fires, they now occupy the "old silk mill," abandoned by the silk manufacturers for a larger building. Beside carrying on this extensive manufactory, Mr. Whitmore has operated in real estate, building a number of houses on Elm street. Mr. Artemas Corbin, who has been for many years connected with shoe manufacture in Putnam, and Mr. Prescott Bartlett, are engaged in the manufacture of slippers, employing each a considerable number of hands.

Carpenters and masons, workers in wood and stone, have found abundant employment in Putnam. The Truesdells, Whitfords, Chamberlains, Farrows, Waters, Herendien are among the many who have helped build up the town. John O. Fox, so useful in many ways, opened a lumber yard about 1860. The Bundys have long served as house painters in Putnam, and adjoining towns have called out a corresponding advance in the whole line of house building and decoration. The old-

time house carpenter, plodding interminably over a single dwelling, is superseded by great establishments, with gangs of jolly workmen, driving jauntily about and hastily throwing up Queen Anne and other fanciful structures. Much of the material used is prepared by machinery and steam. B. M. Kent established in 1875 a manufactory of window frames, sashes, doors, blinds, balusters and kindred articles. Much work has been accomplished by contractors Kelly and Wheaton, erecting many of the fine new buildings in Putnam, Pomfret and other towns. A large number of men are employed by them during the summer. Other work is done by John Adams, bricklayer and contractor, by H. F. Hopkins and others. A lumber yard is kept by Myron Kinney. Many workmen are employed in house painting and decoration by Mr. T. L. Bundy.

Putnam's development in manufacturing enterprise has been much quickened by the formation of a Business Men's Association. Keen-sighted men awoke to the conviction that the business of the town was not sufficiently diversified; was too much limited to the cotton factory interest. A meeting was called in March, 1884, in which some forty citizens participated. Mr. Manning served as chairman. Much spirit and unanimity were manifested. Appropriate remarks were made by different business men. The chairman stated that Putnam had grand water privileges and admirable railroad facilities; had started with sixteen hundred inhabitants, and therefore gained in thirty years about three hundred per cent. What she lacked was unity, perseverance and a doing away with so much selfishness. It was voted to form a society—Messrs. John A. Carpenter, T. P. Leonard, G. E. Shaw, L. H. Fuller, C. N. Allen, a committee to perfect a plan of organization and constitution. At the second meeting the proposed constitution was discussed. Judge Carpenter explained the object to be, "To unite all the citizens under rules to work together for the good of the village, in whatever way their united voluntary efforts could be directed." Some who favored the object could not exactly see how the association could contrive to carry it out, but the wise chairman gave his earnest approval and thought a great deal of good could be brought about, if the manner of doing could not be stated or defined. He was deeply concerned to get the entire people united together for mutual benefit, and to promote the prosperity of Putnam.

At the following meeting the constitution was adopted and a goodly number of signatures obtained. The society was to be called, "The Putnam Business Men's Association." Its object was "to advance the general business interests of the community, and promote a more intimate knowledge of all events affecting the public welfare, and as far as possible to use its influence to improve the material interests of the community." April 4th, 1884, constitution and by-laws were formally adopted, and the following officers chosen: President, James W. Manning; vice-presidents, E. H. Bugbee, E. A. Wheelock, G. W. Holt, Jr., G. A. Hammond, W. H. Pearson, S. H. Seward, D. K. Olney; treasurer, J. A. Carpenter; secretary, W. W. Foster, M.D.; executive committee, L. H. Fuller, M. G. Leonard, G. E. Shaw, Edward Mullan, C. N. Allen. May 15th 109 citizens of the town had enrolled themselves members, meetings were promptly held, and various needed improvements discussed. The work so well begun was carried forward with much spirit, and the good results predicted from this union of heads and hands abundantly realized. A fresh impulse has been given to business in various departments, several new industries have been established, and many new dwelling houses erected. The present number of members is 100. President, G. A. Hammond; secretary, A. B. Williams; treasurer, J. A. Carpenter; executive committee, G. E. Shaw, L. H. Fuller, E. Mullan, F. W. Perry, W. H. Letters.

One of the most promising among Putnam's later industries is the Foundry and Machine Corporation, incorporated April 1st, 1884; capital stock, $20,000. A machine shop and other needful buildings were at once erected and the first cast made August 27th. They make a specialty of the Plummer Steam Heater, for which they hold the patent, but also manufacture castings of varied descriptions. The Steam Heater is largely in demand, and the business of the company is well established upon a permanent basis. Some thirty or forty workmen find remunerative employment. Mr. Orrin Morse is president of the company. Mr. William R. Barber, secretary and treasurer, is also the efficient managing agent. Henry G. Leonard, L. H. Fuller, Edward Mullan, J. C. Nichols and George E. Shaw complete the board of directors. This corporation was formed with the special object of adding to the substantial interests of the village, and gives promise of abundant success.

Putnam Cutlery Company was organized in 1886, with a capital stock of $5,000, for the manufacture of knives of every description excepting table and pocket cutlery. A patented support to the blade, owned by this company, is very valuable, making it impossible to break or pull the blade from the shank. The late John O. Fox was the first president; G. D. Bates, secretary and treasurer.

The Russell Force Pump Company was organized October 31st, 1887, and holds the patent right for supplying New England with this pump, which is manufactured for out-door use, and can be used by power and hand without the use of wind mill. It is a double action pump, capable of pumping from 44 to 50 gallons per minute, made by the Foundry and Machine Corporation. The president of the company is G. D. Bates; secretary and treasurer, W. R. Barber, who, with L. J. Russell, Charles N. Allen, E. Hersey and L. H. Fuller, form the board of directors.

The Putnam Gas Light Company was formed in 1878, and did much for the enlightenment of the village. Farther progress was made through the agency of the Putnam Electric Light Company, organized in 1886, when a hundred and fifty incandescent lamps and thirty-five arc lamps were introduced. Still greater benefits may be expected from the consolidation recently effected, by which "The Putnam Light and Power Company" supersedes previous organizations. President, F. W. Perry; secretary, treasurer and superintendent, Allan W. Bowen; directors, A. Houghton, F. W. Perry, J. W. Manning, C. E. Searls, S. H. Seward, A. W. Bowen, G. A. Hammond.

The Putnam Steam Laundry, Miller & Shepard, proprietors, is a new and flourishing institution, especially welcome to housekeepers. Numberless carpets and curtains bear fresh testimony year by year to its cleansing efficacy, and the weekly washing day is made no longer a supreme necessity.

Concrete walks are made and repaired by Mr. Albert Arnold.

Carriages are also made and trimmed by S. P. Brown, John Gilbert, G. G. Smith and H. W. Howell.

A creamery is one of Putnam's latest institutions. In May, 1888, the subject was first considered and a committee appointed to obtain subscriptions for the formation of a Dairy Company. June 21st, a company was organized, and C. D. Torrey, C. E.

Mills, J. W. Trowbridge, L. H. Fuller, W. P. White, G. A. Hawkins, S. H. Seward chosen directors. Land was secured in Pleasant valley, south of the village, and a building put up sufficiently capacious to accommodate the milk from a thousand cows. In December it was voted to obtain a charter from the legislature, and the capital stock was increased to $5,000. C. D. Torrey was chosen president; W. P. White, secretary; L. H. Fuller, treasurer; board of directors retained in service. The summer of 1889 finds the creamery under full headway, receiving the milk of several hundred cows in Putnam, Killingly, Thompson and Pomfret, and turning out some two hundred pounds each, of butter and cheese, daily. An expert from New York state manages the milk, keeping everything in excellent order. A ready market is found for all the products. It is hoped that pecuniary profit, as well as much saving of time and labor, will result from this associated enterprise.

One of the most important works accomplished in Putnam, since the formation of the Business Men's Association, is the introduction of an abundant supply of water. Damage by fire and much household inconvenience had accrued from previous scarcity. Mr. George E. Shaw was the first to agitate the matter, laying before the association, in 1884, a resolution to investigate the feasibility of introducing water into Putnam village. Messrs. L. H. Fuller, G. E. Shaw, Moses G. Leonard, E. Mullan, C. N. Allen, J. W. Manning, C. M. Fisher, G. M. Hammond, J. H. Gardner, D. K. Olney and W. H. Pearson were appointed a committee for this purpose. Convinced of its practicability they petitioned the legislature for incorporation, and formed a joint stock company, with a capital stock of $100,000. Estimates of cost were obtained from different contractors, and Wheeler & Parks, of Boston, selected—they agreeing to furnish the Putnam fire district with sixty hydrants, at the cost of $1,800 annually. A supply of water was obtained from the outlet of Woodstock lake, about two miles distant, and brought into a receiving tower on Oak hill, and thence distributed throughout the village. A million gallons daily could be used. The present officers of the Putnam Water Company are: L. H. Fuller, president; M. G. Leonard, vice president; George E. Shaw, secretary; Elbert Wheeler, treasurer. The work was completed January 21st, 1886. Though meeting with the combined opposition incident to all costly public enterprises at the outset, Putnam water works

have proved a triumphant success, giving to residents an unfailing supply of their most vital daily necessity, and a sense of security from fire beyond all cost or estimate.

Trade in Putnam scarcely needed the stimulus of association. The Pomfret Factory and Rhodesville stores drew customers from all the surrounding country. The first Pomfret Factory depot dispensed flour and grain as well as tickets. Stores sprung up like mushrooms in the new Depot village, some to collapse after a brief existence, others to grow up into established institutions. The large establishment of Manning & Leonard, with its ample stock of light and heavy articles, is the lineal offspring of a mercantile experiment begun more than forty years since by the senior proprietor. A store opened by another Pomfret aspirant, Nathan Williams, shared largely in popular favor. A directory published in 1861 gives the following list of stores: Dry goods, Cutler & Tucker, J. W. Manning, Richmond & Williams (Lewis), M. S. Morse & Co., J. S. Gay; druggists, D. B. Plimpton, Benjamin Segur; fish market, William Winslow; fruit and confectionery, John L. Flagg; furniture dealers, C. N. & S. P. Fenn; groceries, Henry Leech, Simeon Stone; flour and grain, Hobart Cutler, E. H. Davison & Co.; jewelers, J. B. Darling, D. R. Stockwell; merchant tailor, H. N. Brown; ready-made clothing, W. M. Olney; meat market, Sanford H. Randall; saloon, Thomas Capwell; shoe store, F. A. Brewster; saddle and harness maker, C. F. Carpenter; tinware, Stephen Spalding; tailor, Henry Thurber; milliners, Mrs. John B. Clark, Mrs. R. Darling, Mrs. A. Dresser, Mrs. S. C. Sprague, Mrs. Mary Smith. This meagre list was soon extended. The long established watchmaker's and jeweler's shop of Mr. Edward Shaw was removed from Thompson to Putnam in 1863. The solitary tinware and hardware shop of Mr. Spalding, which had contrived to supply three or four towns with cooking stoves and baking utensils, was succeeded by the far more complete establishment of Mr. Thomas C. Bugbee. Three large establishments to-day, carried on by Chandler & Morse, Perry & Brown, and J. E. Taylor & Co., crowded with stoves, heaters, agricultural implements, and all manner of labor-saving devices, illustrate the marvelous progress made in mechanical art and in appliances for household comfort. A fourth store has been recently opened by S. A. Field. The little watchmaker's shop of Mr. Edward Shaw has expanded into an emporium of useful, orna-

mental and æsthetic articles. The Wright Brothers from Waltham, Mass., in six years' trading in the same line, have won success and honorable reputation. Jewelers' wares are also sold by G. L. Geer, practical watchmaker and engraver, and in the well-filled store of E. E. Robbins. Druggists have made still greater advancement. Those who remember the little apothecary shops of former days view with amazement the varied assortment now displayed in the large and elegant stores of G. E. Dresser, Davenport & Burt, G. Farley and E. O. Hersey.

The dry goods stores show less numerical gain, but carry a greater amount of stock than formerly. The list comprises Manning & Leonard, J. E. Bailey, M. J. Bradley, Simeon Farley, Edward Mesner, Murray & Bugbee, A. B. Williams. Mesner carries on "The People's Store," opened in 1869, by J. H. Gardner, and enjoying a wide popularity. The well-known firm of Sharpe & Green is successfully represented by Mr. Williams. Murray & Bugbee have recently succeeded to the popular store opened by the O'Briens. Mr. Bailey was well known as leading salesman in "The People's Store." The number of grocers and provision dealers has very largely increased. Ten leading groceries figure in place of two, managed by C. M. Bradway, Alfred Coutois, Edward Fly, Guilbert & Moison, P. M. Leclair, W. H. Mansfield & Co., Edward Mullan, Morse Mills store, P. O'Leary and Smith Brothers. These enterprising merchants were mostly strangers, brought by the growing reputation of Putnam, and have identified themselves with the interests of the town.

A very flourishing trade in flour, feed and grain is carried on in the north part of the village, by Bosworth Brothers, who removed from Woodstock valley to Putnam, about 1870. They run a steam grist mill, supplying hosts of customers. Meat markets are conducted by Morse & Darling, Putnam Cash Market Co., Randall & Co., and A. C. Stetson, which feed the thousands of Putnam and also help sustain the needy towns adjacent. Refrigerator buildings for the reception of dressed beef from the West have been provided near the depot, under the charge of R. H. Bradley. Fish is furnished by H. T. Bugbee and other markets. A former unknown luxury is now abundantly supplied from the ample ice houses of H. T. Bugbee and E. E. Lincoln. Bread and other bakerage are prepared by Bakers Asselin, Labossiere and Lilly, and fruit of every variety is to be found in its season. In the ready-made clothing interest the letter C carries

all before it. The Connecticut Clothing Company, Bates & Lindsey proprietors, has a large constituency, and makes proportionate sales. J. W. Church also makes a specialty of ready-made clothing, and goods for men and boys. Manning & Leonard sell many goods in this line, also, and still a place is left for the tailor's art, as plied by C. L. Gilpatric, J. O'Leary, Legu Milot and J. H. York. J. N. Douty for seventeen years has carried on a successful hat store. Mrs. M. E. Murfey still accommodates her many friends with tasteful millinery. Mrs. Thompson and Buchanan, Miss M. E. Lowe, Madame Breault, Misses M. M. Brady and N. Egan find abundant patronage in this ever attractive art, while some half-dozen dressmakers fail to exceed demand for their useful service. Popular shoe stores are maintained by A. M. Parker and G. W. Ingalls. The latter succeeds Mr. T. P. Leonard, who removed from Woodstock with his brothers, M. G. and W. Leonard, and built the tasteful "Leonard Row," on Providence street. "Shoes of swiftness" and "Seven-leagued boots" might be included in the stock of Mr. Parker, judging from the facility with which he traverses the universe. The chief furniture dealer is now Mr. L. E. Smith. The Fenn Brothers were the first to engage in this business, removing to Putnam before the organization of the town, and were active in church and business affairs. Mr. C. N. Fenn has long served as undertaker, and also deals in pictures, artists' materials and house-furnishing goods. The music store of W. H. Letters supplies other artistic needs. Such every-day essentials as coal and wood are to be found in the convenient coal yards of J. W. Cutler and F. J. Daniels.

Accommodations for stores and business have undergone various vicissitudes. Again and again fires have devastated the center of trade. The original brick block, with its historic Quinebaug Hall, built by early enterprise and sold to Mr. T. H. Bugbee, and the succeeding Bugbee Block, on the same site, were both destroyed. The stately Union Block, now occupying the site, was built by substantial capitalists in 1882-83. Hathaway's, Chesebro's and Wagner's blocks bear the names of those who assisted in their construction. The first Congregational church edifice forms part of Manning's store. Central Block, now owned by W. H. Pearson, was built by Chamberlain and S. P. Fenn. Mr. T. H. Bugbee built the hotel that bears his name. The Chickering House was built by Edward Lyon; the Elm

street House by John Ross. A spacious block, with room for holding courts, is now projected by Messrs. Houghton and Wagner. These gentlemen, with Messrs. Bugbee, Gardner, Miller, Pearson and Wheaton, are prominently connected with the building and land interests of Putnam, with which many others are also more or less associated. One of the older residents, Mr. Edgar H. Clark, civil engineer, has exceeded all others in connection with the surveying and laying out of the fast growing town.

The several hotels of Putnam enjoy abundant patronage. Under the efficient administration of the late D. K. Olney the Bugbee House achieved a high reputation, well maintained by the present genial proprietor. A number of boarding houses are well sustained. Payne's dining room is also a well-established institution, while saloons rise and fall at the option of town voters.

For nearly twenty years after the tide of business had turned to the valley, money accommodations were still found on the hill-top, particularly at Thompson Bank. It was not till near the close of the war of the rebellion that the citizens of Putnam awoke to the conviction that the business interests of the town demanded local accommodation. The establishment of a national bank was accordingly discussed at the office of Hon. Gilbert W. Phillips, March 3d, 1864. Articles of association were adopted and stock subscribed amounting to $100,000. Application was then made to the United States Treasury Department, and the requirement of the law having been fulfilled, the "First National Bank of Putnam" was opened for business March 23d, in Stockwell's former jeweler's shop. President, Edmond Wilkinson; cashier, Charles S. Billings; directors, Benjamin C. Harris, Sabin L. Sayles, Ezra Deane, Rufus S. Mathewson, George Paine, G. W. Phillips, Chandler A. Spalding, John A. Carpenter. The capital stock was soon increased by $50,000. A brick building was erected in 1866 and John A. Carpenter made cashier. Mr. Wilkinson was succeeded in the presidency by Hon. G. W. Phillips in 1868, who held the position twenty years. James W. Manning was chosen as his successor. Judge Carpenter still serves as cashier. Mr. S. R. Spalding has held position in the bank for nearly twenty years. Messrs. Franklin Bailey and Seth P. Stoddard served faithfully as bookkeepers. The board

of directors consists of J. H. Gardner, C. J. Alton, E. H. Bugbee, Rufus Pike, Lucius Fitts, with the president and cashier.

Putnam Savings Bank preceded the national bank in date of organization. A charter was granted May, 1862, to Edmond Wilkinson, R. M. Bullock, John O. Fox, R. S. Mathewson, George A. Paine, Horace Seamans, Winthrop Green, Prescott May, William Field, James W. Manning, Charles Bliven, Henry G. Taintor, Charles Osgood, Lorenzo Litchfield, Edgar H. Clark, and George Buck. July 19th the bank commenced business. Edmond Wilkinson served as president; G. W. Phillips, secretary and treasurer; trustees, Edmond Wilkinson, Richmond M. Bullock, John O. Fox, Rufus S. Mathewson, George A. Paine, Sabin Sayles, Jeremiah Olney, Joseph B. Latham, G. W. Phillips. The present officers are: President, J. H. Gardner; secretary and treasurer, Jerome Tourtellotte; trustees, J. H. Gardner, O. H. Perry, C. M. Fenner, Charles P. Grosvenor, Z. A. Ballard, John A. Carpenter, G. W. Holt, Jr., A. Houghton. Deposits reported October 1st, 1888, $1,132,530.72.

Putnam's facilities for extinguishing fires were long wholly inadequate. Its fire companies were hampered by a scant supply of water. In 1875 a fire district was incorporated, including the village and its immediate vicinity; a fire department was organized and new engines procured. But in spite of these precautions, very destructive fires occurred. The great fire of October, 1877, swept through the heart of the village, consuming Bugbee's and Brown's blocks, with all their stores and offices. Hardly less calamitous was the fire of 1882, when Bugbee's block and other valuable buildings were destroyed. Hydrants ready for instant use in every part of the village will, it is hoped, preclude farther loss and damage from this source.

The present "Fire Department" of Putnam village, organized in 1875, consists of three hose companies, fifteen men each, and one hook and ladder company, supplemented by sixty street hydrants. Fire warden, C. H. Chesebro; chief engineer, L. H. Fuller; assistant engineers, Otis Fisher, H. L. Burt; clerk and treasurer, Charles H. Brown; collector, D. F. Southwick. Protector Hose Company No. 1—foreman, Edward Mesner; assistant foreman, E. G. Wright; clerk and treasurer, C. B. Brown; fifteen members. Eagle Hose Company No. 2—foreman, P. M. Leclair; assistant foreman, Louis Cloutier; secretary and treasurer, Frank Mignault; fifteen members. Reliance Hose Com-

pany No. 3—foreman, W. R. Barber: assistant foreman, J. H. Maynard; secretary and treasurer, A. L. Mansfield; fifteen members. General Putnam Hook and Ladder Company—foreman, Charles I. Gorham, assistant foreman, James Rafferty; secretary, Charles Hicks; twenty members.

Putnam Chapter, No. 41, Royal Arch Masons, organized April 22d, 1879. High priest, Alfred M. Parker; treasurer, Eugene A. Wheelock; secretary, Gilman H. Brown.

Putnam Council, No. 340, Royal Arcanum, organized January 26th, 1883. Present membership, 120. Regent, D. C. Ticknor; vice-regent, L. H. Fuller; secretary, G. W. Gilpatric; treasurer, W. R. Barber; collector, C. A. Smith.

The Blue Lodge represents the oldest Masonic order in the state. W. M., R. W. Morey; S. W., A. M. Parker; J. W., S. A. Field; chaplain, F. S. Oatley.

The St. Jean Baptiste Society was organized August 27th, 1871. President, Omer La Rue; vice-president, Elyear St. Onge; treasurer, Louis Cloutier; secretary, Hector Duvert, Sr.; 204 members.

Division No. 1, Ancient Order of Hibernians, was organized in 1875. Present membership, 80. President, Peter Welch; vice-president, Peter Dowd; recording secretary, James Ryan; financial secretary, Richard Gorman; treasurer, John McCauley; standing committee, Joseph Ryan, Frank Monahan, Martin Welch, John Renshaw, John Moore; committee on finance, Thomas McGann, James Weeks, James Cornell; sergeant at arms, John Whalen; doorkeeper, John Moore.

Putnam's early enthusiasm in patriotic demonstrations burns undiminished. Memorial Day, from its first institution, has been observed with ever increasing interest. Its own burial places, and those in neighboring towns, have been faithfully visited. The services in the Central Cemetery, with the military procession, music, and eloquent addresses, draw large crowds every year, and quite eclipse the conventional Fourth of July celebration. A large number of veteran soldiers residing in town give special interest to these occasions. Post No. 54 of the Grand Army of the Republic was organized April 13th, 1882, and named in loving memory of one of Putnam's honored heroes, Addison G. Warner, captain Co. I, First Conn. Cavalry, slain at the head of his company, Ashland, Virginia, June 1st, 1864. The A. G. Warner Post is very flourishing, numbering 140 members.

A commodious hall is furnished by P. O'Leary, in which the prescribed meetings are loyally observed. Present commander, S. H. Chickering; S. V. C., F. S. Oatley; J. V. C., Thomas West; chaplain, Charles H. Hickok; surgeon, Henry Hough; O. D., Charles Monroe; O. G. William B. Whittemore; Q. M., C. M. Green; adjutant, J. E. Rawson; sergeant major, S. K. Spalding; Q. M. S., Albert S. Granger. Sons of Veterans organized as the M. I. Tourtelotte Camp March 11th, 1886; captain, Augustus Warren; first lieutenant, Fred. Reis; second lieutenant, W. B. Fuller. Company G, Third Regiment, Conn. National Guard, was organized in 1872. Present membership, 62 Captain, C. A. Winslow; first lieutenant, E. G. Wright; second lieutenant, H. J. Thayer. This representative of an ancient state and colonial organization is already distinguished for its dexterity in rifle shooting, having won the regimental trophy for four consecutive years.

Putnam, like other modern towns, is deeply interested in the temperance question, to sell or not to sell intoxicating liquors coming up anew at every annual town meeting. So nearly are parties balanced that extraordinary efforts will procure a victory for either side. Doctor W. H. Sharpe, one of the executive committee of the Connecticut Temperance Union, is one of the prominent temperance workers. A Women's Christian Temperance Union was organized March 27th, 1885, which has already accomplished much valuable work. A majority of forty-eight against license at the last election may be in great measure attributable to its influence. President, Mrs. A. H. Armstrong; vice-presidents, Mrs. George Buck, Mrs. Joseph McKachnie, Mrs. Lewis Deane, Miss Hattie Kennedy, Mrs. M. E. Murfey, Mrs. George Weatherhead; recording secretary, Mrs. C. N. Fenn; corresponding secretary, Mrs. S. K. Spalding; treasurer, Mrs. C. H. Brown; superintendent of literature, Mrs. E. T. Whitmore; Sunday school work, Mrs. George Buck; narcotics, Mrs. W. H. Sharpe; evangelistic work, Miss Alice Johnson; work among the colored people, Miss Louisa Fogg; superintendents of press work, Mrs. N. W. Kennedy, Mrs. C. N. Fenn. Efficient women's missionary associations are carried on in connection with the several churches. A Women's Relief Corps, auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic, has been recently organized, when nineteen members were initiated. President, Miss Minnie Warner; first V. P., Mrs. M. Kenyon; second V. P., Mrs. J. McKachnie; treasurer, Mrs. B. S. Thompson; secretary, Mrs. S. K. Spalding;

chaplain, Mrs. A. A. Buchanan; conductor, Miss Gertrude I. Cole; assistant conductor, Miss Carrie E. Place; guard, Miss Annie Monroe.

Another society of recent date is the A. O. U. M., an organization of United American mechanics, having for watchwords, "Honesty, Industry, Temperance." The Putnam Council of this order already numbers sixty members. Trustees, M. Miller, C. Bosworth, G. G. Smith.

Probably the one society in which Putnam residents of every age, sect and character, could most heartily unite, is the newly chartered Putnam Library Association. The lack of a well-stored town library has been long lamented. Such good men as the late Messrs. Chandler A. Spalding and George Williams attempted to meet the need in part by leaving books for a Parish Library in the Congregational church. Others aided in the organization of a Citizens' Library in 1884, which collected about six hundred volumes, under charge of the Women's Temperance Union. Continued agitation and a recent gift from Mr. Edmond Wilkinson have led to a re-organization. J. W. Manning, E. H. Bugbee, George W. Holt, Jr., L. H. Fuller, E. H. Johnson, J. B. Kent, A. B. Williams, E. A. Wheelock, George E. Shaw, are elected board of managers of the "Putnam Library Association," which takes the place of the former society, retaining members and library material. New books will be procured and it is trusted that the Putnam Library will become a thriving, popular and permanent institution.

Progressive Putnam has its conservative element and does not change merely for the sake of changing. A faithful public servant is retained in office. In thirty-four years she has had but one town clerk and treasurer; her school visitors have had long terms of service; her post office has had but few incumbents. Hiram N. Brown succeeded John O. Fox in 1861. His successor, Perry Wilson, held the position till a recent date. The office is now administered by Edward Mullan. Some twenty-five mails are handled daily. The Central Telephone office, Putnam Division, is managed by L. H. Fuller, general insurance agent. Putnam's railroad facilities at the junction of two important lines are very advantageous. The opening and the establishment of the New York & New England railroad, after long struggles and embarrassment, has been an important factor in its later development. Nearly fifty passenger and freight trains pass

daily through the village, and convenient routes connect its depot with the many thriving towns within its circuit.

Interest in its own growth and neighborly affairs is stimulated by its two wide-awake newspapers, which keep a brisk outlook for all passing events. A column in a Danielsonville paper satisfied the requirements of the early inhabitants. A page in the *Windham County Transcript*, edited by Doctor Plimpton, was next accorded. In 1872, the *Putnam Patriot* was established by Mr. Everett Stone, son of the editor of the *Transcript*, which soon gained footing in Putnam and surrounding towns. Mr. A. W. Macdonald, the present editor and proprietor, succeeded Mr. Stone in 1882, and is now associated with Mr. L. O. Williams. The *Patriot* is now a large quarto, filled with town and county news and more substantial reading, and is considered an indispensable necessity in many households. The *Putnam News*, edited by sons of Doctor Bronson, had a brief existence. A cheerful *Sunbeam*, lighting upon Putnam in 1882, has developed into a dignified *Windham County Standard* through the energy and perseverance of its editor and proprietor, Mr. N. W. Kennedy. The *Standard* is a vivacious and enterprising journal, ferreting out news from every corner of the county, and has a wide and increasing circulation.

Putnam's "Brass Bands" deserve to be classed among its most conspicuous institutions, sounding forth its praise and progress in various places and occasions. Both represent a vast amount of patience and self-denying practice. It is said that Father Vygen encouraged the early neophytes of St. Mary's Band by himself taking the field and playing on the instruments with them. The Mechanics' Band has been in existence about a quarter of a century, and was fostered and encouraged by musical veterans of the village. Its roll of membership includes many of Putnam's honored citizens. Its chief founder was the late Professor Goodspeed, a very thorough and successful music teacher, widely known throughout the county. Under his guidance the band made rapid progress, and was soon able to play a prominent part at public gatherings, assisting at many of Woodstock's famous mass meetings and other patriotic demonstrations all over the country. A corporate body, for a time "it held the Fort" at Mechanics' Park, giving weekly concerts and entertainments. A history of Mechanics' Band, with its roll of membership and varied experiences, would have great interest.

St. Mary's Band was organized about 1867, through the agency of Reverend E. J. Vygen. Its first public performance was at the memorable reception of President Grant in 1870. Through the instructions of C. G. Marcy it attained high musical proficiency, and has continued to advance, taking a prominent part on public occasions.

Putnam's demonstrations in welcome of the president and great commander were noteworthy. The streets were very gaily decorated and thronged with thousands of spectators. Soldiers and citizens were alike in line. The "pyramids" of children in red, white and blue, artistically arranged by Father Vygen on the church grounds, were especially noted and admired.

One of Putnam's achievements, encouraged and helped on by her newspapers, was the "Antique Art Loan Exhibition," held in March, 1880, in honor of her twenty-fifth anniversary. It was perhaps an answer to the charge of extreme youth brought by jealous contemporaries that this especial form of birthday observation was devised. Youthful emulation, directed by experienced connoisseurs, brought together in Quinebaug Hall a most remarkable collection of nearly three thousand articles, many of them of great interest and value. Old-time life and customs might be very vividly reconstructed by a careful study of these ancient relics. Pictures and portraits of the early residents of the county were of great interest. The only regret was that the exhibition could not have been more lasting and enjoyed by a larger number, the mud and winds of March preventing a large attendance. Mr. Darius S. Skinner, chairman of the committee, was most active in devising and carrying forward this exhibition. A large number of ladies and gentlemen also served on the committee.

The recent visit of President Harrison and members of his cabinet excited much interest. The distinguishing honor done to Windham county in being permitted to receive and entertain the chief magistrate of the great republic was more fully appreciated than ever before, and Putnam, with great heartiness and unanimity, roused itself to meet the occasion worthily. The committee of arrangements, comprising many of Putnam's leading citizens, James W. Manning, chairman, together with many organizations and private citizens, vied with each other in arranging and perfecting every detail needful for the appropriate

reception of the distinguished guests. But "time and tide" are beyond human control, and the protracted storm brooding over New England paid no heed to presidential visitation. In spite of delay and discomfort, Putnam did its part nobly, with some, perhaps, unavoidable omissions. Its streets were as gay as bunting and flags could make them, Each building had its specific devices and decorations; children in gay attire, representing the forty-two states, on one side; another bevy in white, each carrying a flag, on the other; the prosaic iron bridge transformed into a bower of verdure and beauty, flowers and pennons jauntily floating, in spite of the sombre sky. Joseph McKachnie served as grand marshal of the day, supported by aids, Major H. W. Johnson and Captain A. M. Parker. The veterans of the Grand Army, 140 strong, appeared in tasteful new uniform in honor of the occasion. Company F, from Danielsonville, and Company G, from Putnam, assisted in the procession, together with Putnam's two musical bands, its fire department of 60 men, the Ancient Order of Hibernians, 100 men, and St. Jean Baptiste Society, 300 men, all in radiant uniform and regalia, making a beautiful array as they received the presidential party and escorted it through the limits of Putnam. As on the previous occasion, the ingenuity of Reverend Father Vygen furnished an unique feature of the reception. Driven by the rain from a position by the ruins of the Catholic church, an impromptu scenic representation was arranged within the portals of the convent, its central figure hundreds of happy children in tiers of red, white and blue, massed up to the second story. Ringing bells, booming cannon, inspiriting music, waving banners, hearty cheers and hurrahs, added to the impressiveness of the exhibition, which called out much admiration and praise from the president and other spectators.

After town organization, the lack of a suitable burial place was painfully apparent. Having in his possession near his residence a tract of land (a part of the old "Mighill Farm," Killingly) which he deemed especially suitable for this purpose, Chandler Spalding offered it to the town for a public burying ground. The town instructed its selectmen to purchase the ground, but its many urgent burdens and expenses compelled delay and reconsideration, during which interval Mr. Spalding proceeded to lay out the land and prepare a cemetery. July 4th, 1856, the first interment was made. Many persons secured lots,

and the ground was constantly improved and beautified by Mr. Spalding till, in 1866, he conveyed it to the Putnam Cemetery Association, formed by citizens of the town desirous of having said cemetery hereafter well cared for, protected and further improved and enlarged. These desires have been satisfactorily accomplished, and the Putnam Cemetery is regarded with much interest and pride, and is every year freshly consecrated by memorial prayers and offerings. President of the association, Otis E. Keith; secretary and treasurer, Charles N. Fenn.

A little east of the modern cemetery, overgrown and enmatted with tangled shrubs and vines, is the lot of land given to the town of Killingly for a burial place by its most honored citizen, Peter Aspinwall. Mouldering stones bearing the names of the earliest settlers of this vicinity, are to be found there. Killingly's choicest worthies, Captain Joseph Cady and Justice Joseph Leavens, its first ministers, Reverends John Fisk, Perley Howe and Aaron Brown, its town fathers and town mothers for at least two generations, were interred in this time honored grave yard. A tombstone under a spreading pine tree tells the sad fate of the young bride of Othniel Brown, August 13th, 1786:

> "That awful day, the hurricane
> When I was in my prime
> Blew down the house, and I was slain
> And taken out of time."

The laying out of other burial grounds led to the partial abandonment and neglect of this most interesting ground, but recently it has received more attention, and it is hoped that it may be more thoroughly restored as an unique memorial of the past.

The Pomfret Factory burying ground, on the Pomfret road, west of the former home of Mr. Wilkinson, is no longer in existence. This land was probably devoted to this purpose by Captain Cargill, his little granddaughter, Laura Waldo, being the first person there buried. Included without reservation in the sale of the Cargill land, it was freely used by persons in the vicinity, particularly by the descendants of Captain John Sabin. As the old families became extinct and the land more valuable, it was devoted to other uses. Such stones as were sufficiently preserved were removed to the new cemetery.

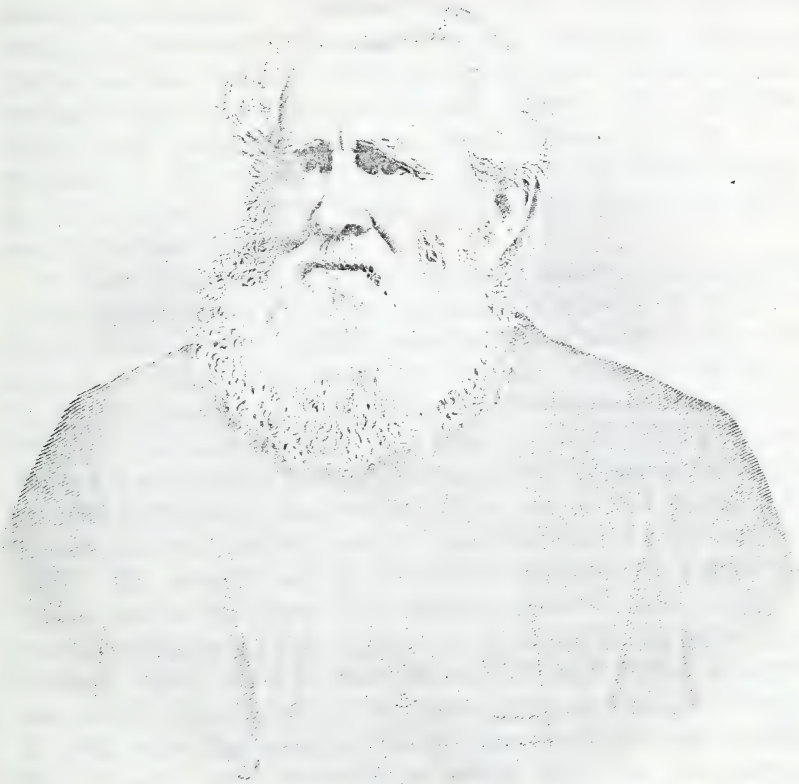
The cheerful and well kept burial ground at Putnam Heights is of comparatively modern origin. The first person buried

there was Captain Luther Warren, who died August 9th, 1839. The venerated pastor, Priest Atkins, was also buried there, and many of the later residents of the village and vicinity.

While Putnam village, in a certain sense, absorbs and dominates the town, the outlying portions have yet a distinct character and life of their own. Two miles east of the busy village old Killingly hill reposes in serene tranquility. Transformed in name to Putnam Heights, with new elements and new inhabitants, this ancient village still retains its primitive characteristics. Business has long since flown to the valley. Its one church maintains but intermittent service; its one school is scantily attended, and modern institutions fail to gain a footing, yet this very repose and fixedness, as contrasted with the rush and tumult of everyday life, have a peculiar charm, and the wearied denizens of "the tired city's mart" welcome this place of refuge. A number of families, more or less associated with the hill, have permanent summer homes here. Mr. T. J. Thurber, formerly of New York, continues through the year. The recent discovery of a spring of delicious water, with its appropriation of the beautiful Indian name of this section, may prove an additional attraction. Aspinock spring and the old hill, with its pure air and wide outlook, merit a larger constituency. "Beautiful for situation," commanding one of the finest views in the county, with its well-established church and common, Killingly hill was long a leading business and social center, especially noted for its popular taverns and largely-frequented trainings. Probably the hill reached its acme of fame and prosperity soon after the arrival of the cotton factory, when proprietors and operatives from Pomfret factory, Howe's factory and "The Stone Chapel" sought spiritual and secular privileges at its meeting house and store. The store kept by those enterprising merchants, Ely & Torrey, exceeded anything in eastern Connecticut. Thurber's tailor shop was almost equally celebrated, supplying young men far and near with wedding and "freedom" suits, and fashionable long surtouts. The private class or school of "Priest Atkins" was another peculiar institution of Killingly hill, filling the place of the present State Normal school, in fitting young men and women to become thorough and successful teachers. "Choice spirits" on the hill forwarded the organization of the first missionary and Bible societies of Windham county, one hundred and twenty-two ladies in North Killingly and Thompson organ-

izing as a "Female Tract Society" in 1816, while spirits of a very different order were lavishly dispensed from Warren's tavern—the headquarters of mirth and conviviality. A large circle of relatives and friends enjoyed the delightful hospitalities of Justice Sampson Howe's genial household, and a still wider constituency bowed in meek submission before the dictum and prescriptions of Doctor Grosvenor.

The old "Moffats Mills," at East Putnam, established in time immemorial by an early Killingly family, is still represented. A second grist mill was built on the same site by James Cady. In 1860 Calvin and William Randall bought a privilege on the same Bowditch brook, and built a small mill for the manufacture of cotton yarn. The whole establishment and privileges were purchased by G. A. Hawkins and Augustus Houghton in 1865. They doubled the capacity of the mill, put up new buildings and made many improvements. C. J. Alton succeeded Mr. Hawkins in ownership. Houghton & Alton have sold their interest to Norwich owners, who as the "East Putnam Yarn Company" employ about twenty-five hands, and manufacture 3,500 pounds of cotton yarn weekly. Pleasant residences and a neat little Free Will Baptist church are to be found there. Mr. Houghton sided generously in repairing this edifice and maintaining stated worship. Its pastor, Mrs. Fenner, has done much valuable missionary work in the vicinity. The Cady mills, at the Four Corners and near the state line, have been maintained, with intervals of suspension, for many years. This eastern part of Putnam, formerly traversed twice a day by the convenient Providence stage coach, has been left behind and thrown backward by the all conquering railroad, while the valley west of the town has been built up by the same arbitrary power. Many new houses and families appear in the old Gary district. Population year by year stretches farther southward. The old families are mostly gone. Mr. Ezra Dresser still occupies one of the old Dresser homesteads, the other is improved as the town farm. The name of Gary, once so familiar, is transferred to westward towns, where it bears an honorable record. Judge Gary, of Chicago, descends from the old Pomfret family. The Holmes's, Sawyers, Gilberts are mostly gone. Even the Perrin family, so associated with the valley, is no longer represented. The old Perrin house has also passed away.



W.W. Preston & Co. N.Y.

Wm. S. Arnold

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

WILLIAM S. ARNOLD.—Andrew Arnold, the grandfather of William S. Arnold, married Catherine Reynolds, of North Kingstown, Rhode Island. Their children were two in number, Philip being the survivor. He was born in Warwick, and married Catherine, daughter of William Searls, and granddaughter of Richard Searls, of Cranston, Rhode Island. The children of Philip and Catherine Arnold were: Andrew R., born in 1810; William S., November 3d, 1811; Albert H., in 1813; George E., in 1816; Jabez, in 1818; Susan E., in 1821; Henry R., in 1823; and Catherine M., in 1827.

William S. Arnold, who is a native of Warwick, Rhode Island, at the age of seven years accompanied his father to Woodstock, Connecticut, where, until seventeen, he attended the common schools in winter and spent the summer months on the farm. He then removed to Masonville, in Thompson, and until 1841 filled the position of clerk, subsequently acquiring an interest in the store and cotton factory owned by the Masonville Company. In 1852 he became the exclusive owner of the store, and conducted the business successfully and profitably until the fall of 1867. Mr. Arnold having devoted his whole life without cessation to active business, then determined to retire from trade, and accordingly on the disposal of his interest became a man of leisure. He resided in East Greenwich and North Kingstown, and at other points where he found congenial surroundings, until 1884, when his present house near Putnam was purchased. Mr. Arnold was formerly a whig, and on the formation of the republican party joined its ranks. He has, however, been content to exercise the privilege of the ballot without controlling the offices within its gift. His pleasures have been found amid the peaceful scenes of domestic life rather than in the excitements attending a public career.

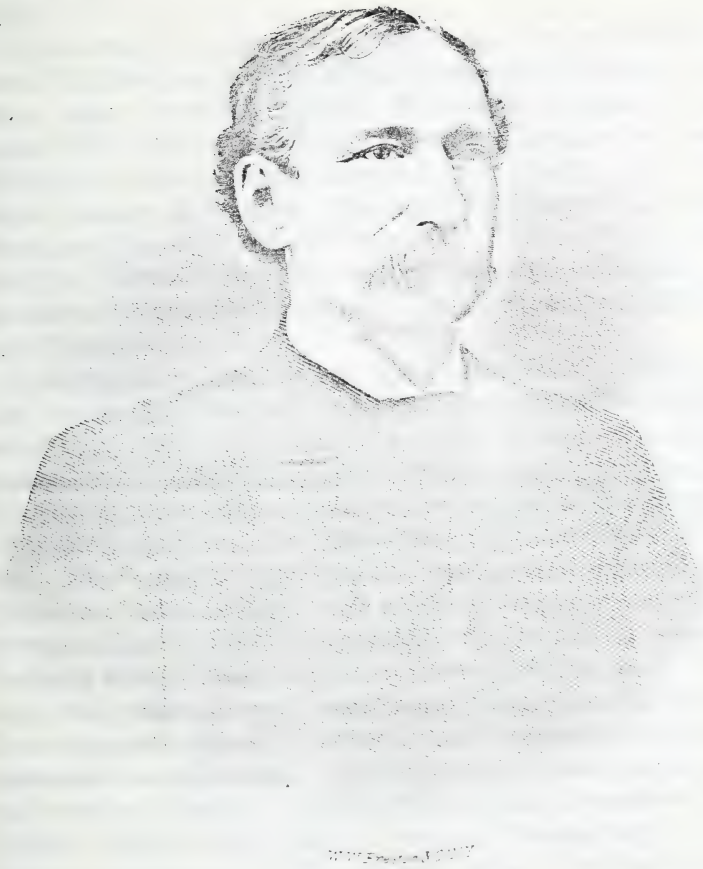
Mr. Arnold in 1836 married Lucina, daughter of Lot Underwood, of Pomfret, who died in September, 1865. Their children are: Harriet A., wife of Jacob F. Tourtellotte, of Winona, Minnesota, and Nason Henry, deceased, who married Mary Newman. Mr. Arnold was again married in 1886 to Mary E., daughter of Alphonso Williams, of West Glocester, Rhode Island, a descendant of Roger Williams.

GEORGE BUCK.—David Buck removed from Massachusetts to the part of Killingly now embraced in the town of Putnam, where he conducted a farm and also carried on the trade of a joiner. He was known as an enterprising and successful business man. His children by a first marriage were three sons, David, Jonathan and Aaron, and four daughters, Mrs. Josiah Dean, Mrs. Benjamin Cutler, and two who married Resolved Wheaton. By a second marriage was born a son, David, and a daughter, Eliza, who became Mrs. Henry Adams. Aaron, of this number, was born on the homestead farm in Killingly, upon a portion of which he settled and resided during his lifetime. He married Annie, daughter of Asa Lawrence, of Killingly, whose children were: Lucy, wife of Calvin Leffingwell; Rosamund, wife of Calvin Boyden; Mary, married to Jesse Herendein; Annie, wife of Caleb Howe; Erastus, Elisha, Augustus and George.

The last named of these brothers, and the subject of this biographical sketch, was born October 13th, 1810, in Killingly, and until his twentieth year devoted his time to the work of the farm. He enjoyed but limited opportunities of education, and soon found employment in a cotton mill. This not being altogether to his taste, he became one of the leading builders and contractors of the day. For ten years he was employed by Messrs. M. S. Morse & Co. and Messrs. G. C. Nightingale & Co., in connection with the construction and improvement of their property, after which he embarked in building, and dealt to some extent in real estate at the same time. For twenty years he has been the trusted guardian of the real estate and other property owned by Thomas Harris in Putnam.

Mr. Buck has been more or less prominent in affairs connected with his county, was for three terms county commissioner, for five years selectman of the town, and served for the session of 1878-79 as a member of the Connecticut house of representatives. In politics he was first a federalist, afterward became identified with the free soil party, whose principles he espoused with much earnestness, and is now a strong prohibitionist. Since the age of eighteen he has practiced total abstinence, and made it one of the guiding principles of his life. He joined the Congregational church in North Killingly at the age of twenty-one, and later became a member of the Putnam Congregational church. The earliest edifice of the latter church he was largely instrumental in erecting, and did much to advance the interests of the

George Buck



G. D. Bates

society. Mr. Buck in 1831 married Phila Williams, of Ashford, Connecticut. He was a second time married in December, 1867, to Sarah Maria, daughter of Colonel Erastus Lester, of Plainfield.

GUSTAVUS DAVIS BATES.—Tyler Bates, the grandfather of Gustavus D. Bates, was a prosperous farmer in Thompson. His children were Erastus, William, Welcome, Holman, George T., Ann, Chloe, Betsey and Sally. Welcome Bates, also a resident of Thompson, was formerly engaged in teaching, and in his later years became a farmer. He married Jemima E., daughter of Reverend James Grow, of Vermont. Their children are: Elizabeth G., Hannah Augusta, wife of Horatio H. Hutchins; Sarah, deceased; Marvin G., Gustavus Davis, Sarah Jane 2d, deceased, and Welcome E.

Gustavus Davis Bates was born October 2d, 1839, in Thompson, where he remained until his twentieth year, receiving his education at the public school and the Thompson academy. He was industriously employed either in a factory or on a farm until sixteen, when his attention was turned to teaching, his field of labor being first in Burrillville, R. I., and later in Thompson. At the age of eighteen the young man entered a store at Grosvenor Dale as clerk, and was thus engaged until his majority was attained, when he enrolled his name as a private in the Seventh Rhode Island regiment during the late war. His promotion, the result of merit, was rapid from corporal to sergeant, first sergeant, second lieutenant, first lieutenant, and acting quartermaster and adjutant. In July, 1864, he was made captain of his former company. Late in 1864 he was brevetted lieutenant colonel, and secured while in front of Petersburg, Va., leave of absence on account of failing health, which fact finally occasioned his resignation.

Colonel Bates participated in the engagements at Fredericksburg, Vicksburg, Jackson, the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Bethesda Church, North Anna River, Cold Harbor, Petersburg and Weldon Railroad, after which his regiment went into winter quarters. On regaining his health he returned again to civil life and embarked in the manufacture of flannel shirts in Worcester, Mass., but met with financial reverses. As an instance of the integrity that has characterized his business career it may be mentioned that afterward, in more prosperous days, he paid all his obligations with interest. The colonel then

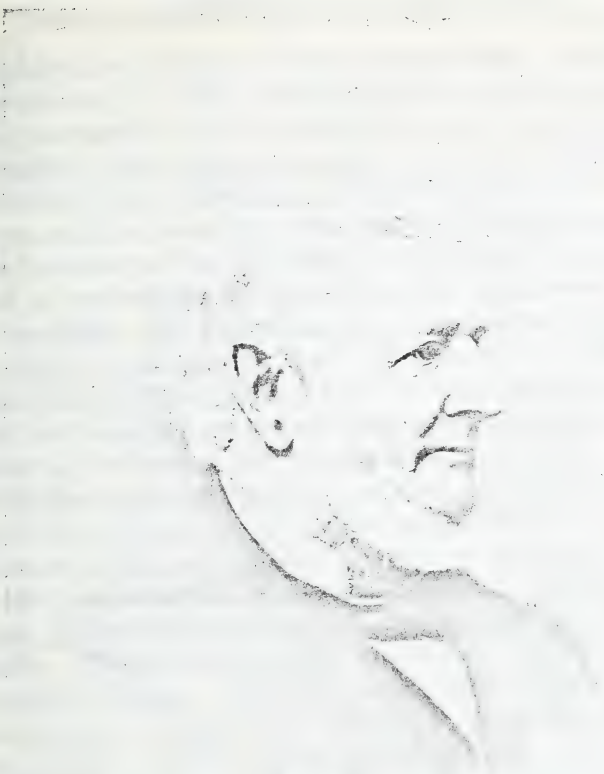
represented Boston houses for ten years, as traveling agent in the sale of gentlemen's furnishing goods, and after an interval of rest assumed the management of the business of George B. Cluett & Co., large shirt and collar manufacturers in New York city. In 1884 he established the Connecticut Clothing Company in Putnam, with a branch at Southbridge, Mass., to which he devotes as much attention as is consistent with his other business projects. In 1886, in company with a partner, he founded the Putnam Cutlery Corporation, of which he is secretary, treasurer and manager. He is also president of the Putnam Pump & Hose Reel Company.

Colonel Bates has been prominently identified with the republican party in politics, and represented his constituents in the Connecticut legislature in 1887 and 1888, on which occasion he was chairman of the committee on cities and boroughs. He was in 1888 a delegate to the national republican convention convened at Chicago. In addition to his various business enterprises he is a successful farmer and breeder of blooded stock. He is a member of A. G. Warner Post, of the G. A. R., and of Quinnatisset Grange, No. 65, of Thompson. His religious views are in harmony with the creed of the Baptist church, of which he is a member. Colonel Bates on the 17th of June, 1867, married Ellen A., daughter of Benjamin F. Hutchins, of Putnam.

John A. Carpenter.—Robert Carpenter, of Greenwich, R. I., the great-grandfather of John A. Carpenter, on the 26th of October, 1755, married Charity Roberts, of Warwick, in the same state. Their children were: Christopher, John, Phebe and Marcy. John of this number, who resided in West Greenwich, married Sarah Stone, and had children: Christopher, Phebe, Patience, Robert and Amos. The last-named and youngest of these children, Amos, on the 19th of June, 1813, married Mary, daughter of Joseph Bailey, of West Greenwich. Their children were: Maria, Sarah C., Marcy S., Patience S., Olive B., George W., John A., Charles B. and Mary E., of whom five are deceased.

John Anthony, the second son, was born June 23d, 1828, in West Greenwich, and at the age of eight years removed to Putnam, then Pomfret, where he pursued his studies at the district school, and meanwhile until 1846 assisted his father in the work of the farm. He then engaged in teaching in the schools of Putnam and vicinity, the intervals when not thus occupied being

John A. Carpenter



John Cox

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employed as before, on his father's farm. In 1857 he entered the office of the Morse Mills Company as accountant, paymaster and manager of the merchandise department, and remained thus occupied until 1866, when he was elected cashier of the First National Bank of Putnam, of which he was one of the incorporators, and has since that time been its active manager. He was the treasurer of the Putnam Savings Bank from 1866 to 1874, and on his resignation from that office continued to act as one of its trustees. Mr. Carpenter was, irrespective of party ties, elected judge of probate for the Putnam district in 1863 and has since that time held the office. He has filled various local positions, and cordially supported all measures tending to the advancement of the town, and its material prosperity. His sympathy with the cause of education assumed practical form in the aid he gave with others, toward the establishment of a high school in Putnam, when a member of the school board of the town.

Mr. Carpenter has been twice married. He was first united to Ann Elizabeth, daughter of Byram and Nancy Johnson Williams. Their two children are Nancy Janette (deceased) and Byram Williams. Mrs. Carpenter died August 12th, 1856, and he married a second time, Marcia J., daughter of Moses Chandler, whose ancestors settled in Woodstock in 1686. Their three children are: Jane Elizabeth, wife of Edgar Morris Warner; Anna Chandler and John Frederick.

JOHN O. FOX was the son of Captain Abiel Fox and his wife Judith Perry. He was born in West Woodstock, July 5th, 1817, and received his education at the common schools near his home, and at the Nichols Academy, at Dudley. His father kept a store at Woodstock, but later removed to Providence, where he was the landlord of a popular public house, well known as "Fox's Tavern." On his decease the family returned to Woodstock. Mr. Fox, before his majority was attained, had formed a copartnership with his brother-in-law, John P. Chamberlin, in trade, and in the manufacture of shoes. They were successful until the financial crisis of 1837, which swept away not only the firm of Chamberlin & Fox, but many other business men of the town. In this failure was involved not only the patrimony, but the earnings of Mr. Fox, and a new start in life was the only alternative. He therefore, in 1840, removed to Putnam, then a rising young village, and was soon appointed to the charge of the depot. This connection was maintained for a period of

thirty years, and he himself was the headquarters for the marketing of much of the produce for the adjoining towns, which was shipped to Boston and Providence. He kept for years the only livery stable in the town, and was the first person to bring finished lumber into the place for building purposes.

He was one of the leading and influential men of the town, foremost in every enterprise resulting in its growth and development, and ever ready to fill any local office, however inconvenient, that was bestowed upon him. He was for years a director of both the First National Bank and the Savings Bank of Putnam. In all his relations, whether of a public nature or connected with private business, his course was characterized by the most absolute integrity. He was a man of indomitable will and unbounded perseverance, acting in all things consistently with his view of the subject, irrespective of the opinion of the majority. In politics a democrat, he was never offensive, yet always ready to defend his convictions. Self-reliant, observant, and possessing excellent judgment, his business career readily marked him as a successful man. Mr. Fox, in connection with his lumber interests, purchased a tract of land in Florida, which he devoted to the uses of an orange grove. Here he was accustomed to spend his winters, and each succeeding season found him looking forward with great pleasure to his period of rest in the South.

In 1848 Mr. Fox married Miss Eliza Phillips, whose two children are a son, John O., Jr., and a daughter, Hattie. The death of John O. Fox occurred in Florida, on the 11th of February, 1889.

Lucius H. Fuller.—Both English and Scotch blood coursed through the veins of Mr. Fuller's ancestors. His great-grandfather, Deacon Abijah Fuller, had the honor of assisting in the fortification of Bunker Hill, on which occasion he directed the throwing up of the earthworks the night before the battle. He died in 1835 in Hampton, where he was a farmer and a leading citizen. He married Abigail Meacham, whose children were: Abigail, Lois, Arthur, Seymour, Clarissa and Luther. Seymour Fuller resided in Hampton, his birthplace, until 1816, the date of his removal to Tolland, Conn. He married in 1811, Louisa, daughter of William Butler and his wife, Louisa Huntington. Their children were: Lucius S., Abigail, wife of Sylvander Harwood, Caroline C., William B. and Melissa J.; of whom Lucius

S. is the only survivor. He was born March 12th, 1812, in Hampton, and now resides in Tolland, where he has been a foremost citizen and prominently identified with both county and state affairs. He married July 4th, 1838, Mary Eliza, daughter of John Bliss, Esq., and his wife Sally Abbott, of Tolland. They celebrated their golden wedding July 4th, 1888. Their two surviving children are Lucius H. and Edward E.

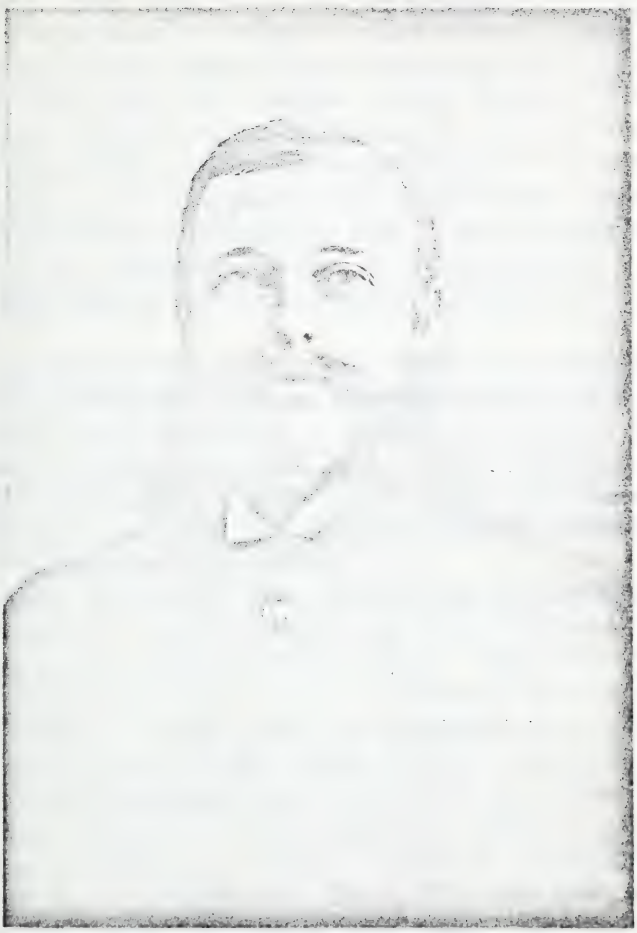
Lucius H. was born August 31st, 1849, in Tolland, and received a high school and academic education. On returning from school, after a brief interval on the farm, he removed to Putnam in February, 1868, and engaged in the insurance business, representing, as agent, many of the most important fire insurance companies in the country. This has, under his able management, grown and extended itself until it now takes rank as one of the most important agencies in the state, outside of the cities. Mr. Fuller is also interested in various other enterprises; he is president of the Putnam Water Company, having been one of its earnest promoters and warmest advocates; treasurer of the Putnam Dairy Company; director of the Putnam Foundry Corporation, of the Mystic Valley Water Company, the Palatka Water Company, of Florida, and also of the Tolland Fire Insurance Company. He has been an earnest worker for the town of Putnam and its material prosperity, having at times influenced the investment of considerable capital at this point. As a republican he was twice elected to the office of justice of the peace, but each time declined to act. He is now serving for the second term as member of the school board, and is also at present one of the acting visitors. He is greatly interested in the fire department, of which he was for many years chief engineer, and has been warden of the fire district, of which he was one of the principal promotors.

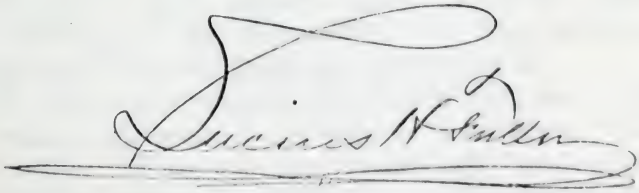
Mr. Fuller was in 1881 elected to the Connecticut house of representatives from Putnam, and reelected in 1882, making an excellent record. He is the present senator from the Sixteenth district, being chairman of the committee on incorporations, one of the most important committees in the legislature. He has also been a delegate to various state conventions. As a public speaker he has gained something more than local prominence; his ease and fluency in this respect having aided greatly in his political advancement, besides giving him a leading position as a legislator.

Mr. Fuller was on the 31st of August, 1871, married to Helen A., daughter of Isaac and Elizabeth Briggs, of Pomfret, who died May 21st, 1875, leaving one son, Maurice Bernard, born May 7th, 1874. He was again married June 30th, 1880, to Abby Clara, daughter of Joseph W. and Abigail N. Cundall, of Worcester, Mass., who died November 10th, 1884, leaving a son, born on the 7th of August, 1881.

GEORGE W. HOLT, JR.—Jonathan Holt, a soldier of the revolution, was the father of Josiah Holt, a native of Hampton, Conn., who during his active life followed the trade of a machinist. He married Mary Prior, who became the mother of a large family, the eldest son, William L., being well-known as a successful manufacturer, and a man of much mechanical skill, both in New England and in the South, to which section he subsequently removed. Another son, George W. Holt, the father of the subject of this biography, was born March 16th, 1816, in Plainfield, Conn., and in 1831 removed to Slatersville, R. I., where he remained until 1870, when Providence became and is at present his home. Entering the cotton mills when a boy he rose through the successive grades, finally becoming superintendent, agent and part owner. Having abandoned active business he still continues the efficient president of the Monohansett Manufacturing Company. Mr. Holt was on the 3d of September, 1839, married to Lucy Dodge, daughter of Barney Dodge, of Smithfield, R. I. Their children are a son, George W., Jr., and a daughter, Ellen Porter.

George W. Holt, Jr., was born July 21st, 1840, in Slatersville, where his early education was received at the village school. In 1857 he became a pupil of the Phillips Academy, at Andover, Mass., and one year later entered the Scientific Department of Brown University, where he completed a two years' course of study. His father was at this time manager of the Slatersville Mills, and also engaged in building and starting the Forestdale Mills, in which Mr. Holt became assistant superintendent, and continued to act in that capacity for ten years. He then spent a year in Providence, and in 1871 came to Putnam, as superintendent for the Monohansett Manufacturing Company, which had become lessees of certain manufacturing property and water power at that point. The business which had been conducted under a partnership with Estus Lamb and George W. Holt as the owners, was in 1882 incorporated as the company above





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mentioned. Mr. Holt on his advent in Putnam assumed charge of the property, placed the machinery, started the mills and acted as superintendent until 1888, when he became agent, having since the date of incorporation had an interest in the business. The product of the mills consists of plain sheetings and shirtings, for which New York city affords a ready market. Mr. Holt has been since 1873 a member of the board of trustees of the Putnam Savings Bank, and has interested himself in various enterprises tending to advance the growth of the village, especially in the introduction of the electric light. As a republican he was elected to the Connecticut house of representatives for the session of 1889, and served as chairman of the committee on manufactures.

Mr. Holt married November 6th, 1865, Marion A., daughter of Estes Burdon, of Blackstone, Mass., who died soon after. He was again married April 27th, 1872, to Rosalie F., daughter of Samuel F. Dyer, of North Kingstown, R. I. Their children are a son, William Franklin, now a pupil of the Greenwich Academy, at Greenwich, Conn., and Mary Florence, who is pursuing her studies in the Putnam High School.

James Winchell Manning.—The earliest representative of the Manning family in America emigrated from England in 1634 and settled in the suburbs of Boston, Mass. Ephraim, representing the third generation in line of descent, located in Woodstock, Windham county, where he lived and died. His son William was a patriot, held a commission as captain during the war of the revolution, and served until the close of the conflict. His children were six daughters and two sons, William H., the youngest son, being a native of Woodstock, where his birth occurred September 10th, 1776. He later removed to Pomfret, where he died in June, 1862. By his marriage to Lucy Tucker were born five children: Lory, Mary, Ephraim, Lucy and William. He married a second time Lois Paine, of Pomfret, whose children are: James W., John M., Henry F., Edward P. and Edward P., 2d. The survivors of this number are William, John M. and James W.

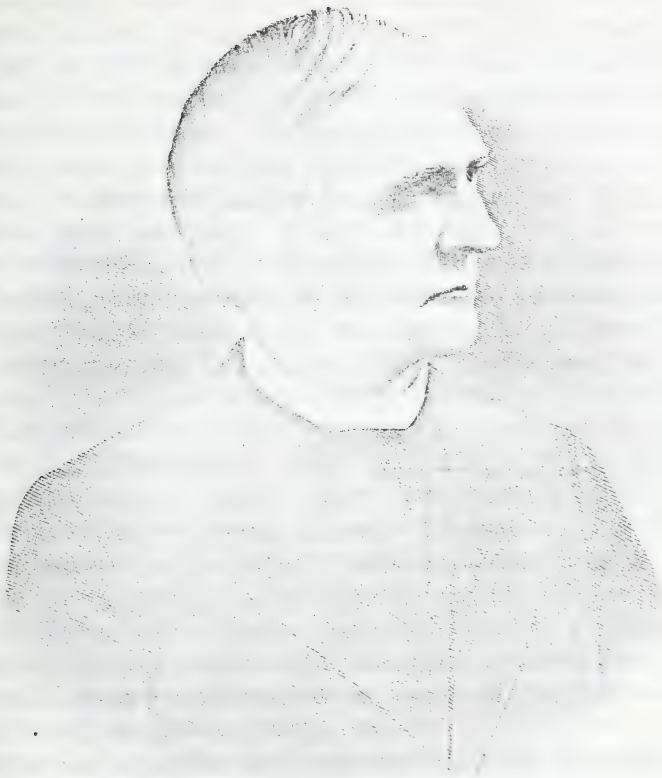
James W. was born in Pomfret March 8th, 1822, and remained until his twenty-fifth year a resident of that town. He was educated at the Thompson and Woodstock Academies, and the Connecticut Literary Institution, at Suffield, meanwhile at intervals giving a hand at the work of the farm. He then

accepted a clerkship and served for two years in that capacity, removing in 1847 to Putnam, where he embarked in the dry goods trade. This business he has continued until the present time, either alone or with partners, the present firm of Manning & Leonard having existed since 1869.

Mr. Manning has been prominent in local affairs, and on the organization of the town of Putnam was elected the first town clerk, which office he has held continuously until the present time. He has also filled the offices of town treasurer and registrar of births and marriages. He was in 1866, as a republican, elected a member of the Connecticut house of representatives, and in 1869-71-72 filled the office of state comptroller. He was for many years a director and is now the president of the First National Bank of Putnam, as also one of the incorporators of the Putnam Savings Bank. He has, from the organization of the town, manifested the deepest interest in its moral and material advancement, and was on its formation president of the Business Men's Association of Putnam, which has proved a powerful agent in its commercial development. Mr. Manning is a member and deacon of the Baptist church of Putnam. He is a firm believer in the truths of Christianity and lends a willing hand to the support and propagation of the gospel. In the days when the question of slavery was agitated with much personal bitterness, he was an avowed abolitionist.

Mr. Manning was, on on the 5th of May, 1846, married to Emily, daughter of Daniel Fitts, of Pomfret. Their only child is a daughter, Helen A., wife of Doctor J. B. Kent, of Putnam.

Milton Stratton Morse.—Oliver Morse, the father of Milton Stratton Morse, and a native of Sharon, Massachusetts, was first a carpenter, then a farmer. He married Waitstill Stratton, of Foxboro, where their son, Milton Stratton, was born, December 25th, 1799. When very young his father removed to Wrentham, Massachusetts, the scene of Milton's earliest connection with cotton manufacturing. He began work in a small factory, his first task being that of picking cotton and placing it on the cards, which labor was continued for two years. He was then apprenticed to the blacksmith's trade, but the terms of the contract not being complied with, he returned home at the age of thirteen, his father having removed his family to Attleboro, while he sought employment at Pawtucket. The lad remained



Yours truly

James W. Manning

at home about a year, engaged in braiding straw and picking cotton by hand for firms in Pawtucket. He next worked for Zeba Kent, in his mill at Seekonk and on his farm, often going to the woods with two yoke of oxen and a horse to load ship timber destined for the shipyards at Warwick, Rhode Island.

Early in 1815 his father removed to a farm in East Providence, where his son assisted him for a year, subsequently living with his uncle at Foxboro. At the end of a year he entered a cotton mill at Attleboro, and was speedily made overseer of the card room. In this room was a pair of mules, and by their aid he learned mule spinning. A year and a half later he removed to East Wrentham, near the Foxboro line, and assumed charge of the carding and spinning in Blake's factory for about two years. After a brief interval spent in farming he assumed charge of the mule spinning in a mill at Walpole, remained at this point one year, and then became superintendent of Elisha Sherman's factory at Foxboro, where warps were manufactured by contract for firms in Pawtucket. After spending a year at Foxboro he assumed charge of a mill in North Attleboro, devoted to the manufacture of cotton sewing thread. Though this business, being in competition with that of Coates and other English manufacturers, was regarded as a difficult one, Mr. Morse resolved to teach inexperienced operatives to perform it—a policy which he carried out with such success that a half century ago he was able to make, from Sea Island cotton, yarns of No. 130, or one hundred and thirty skeins to the pound.

After an engagement of one year with the Manville Company at Cumberland, Rhode Island, he assumed charge for a brief time of the carding room of a mill at Central Falls, in the same state, and a few months later formed a copartnership with Avery Gilmore, under the firm name of Morse & Gilmore, for the manufacture of cotton goods. Hiring a small mill at Central Falls, they effected a contract with Crawford Allen, of Providence, to stock the mill and sell the goods on commission. They soon established a profitable business, which continued for three years, when Mr. Morse sold his interest. During this period he was also engaged for a year in running the Lefavor mill at Pawtucket. In 1832 he took the Lyman mill at Woonsocket, ran it by contract for Crawford Allen, and removed with his family to that town. In 1833, in connection with Mr. Allen, he purchased the Abbott Run mills at Cumberland, and transferring his res-

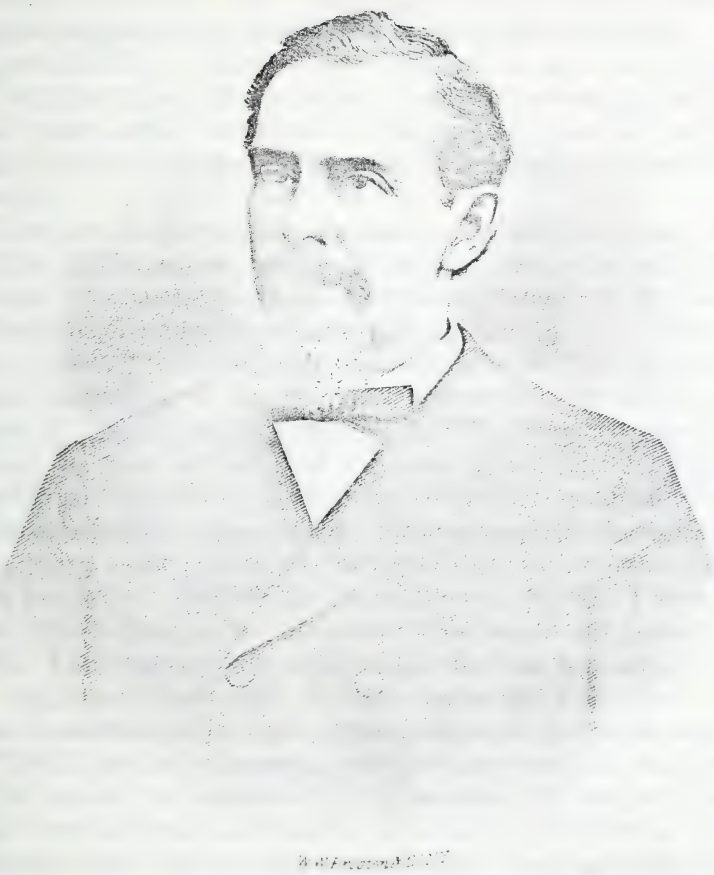
idence to Valley Falls, assumed charge of the property, repaired the old and put in much new machinery. He continued in the ownership of this property, his half interest having been increased by the addition of a fourth interest. In 1842 and 1843 he ran by contract a mill at Valley Falls owned by Mr. Allen, and also one owned by Henry Marchant, of Providence. The latter contract, which was for three years, was broken by the owner of the mills on finding that Mr. Morse was making the mills profitable.

In 1843, in connection with Mr. Allen, Mr. Morse operated the Arkwright Mills, at Cranston, Rhode Island, of which he assumed the superintendence. In this relation he continued for eleven years. In 1844 the machinery was removed from the Valley Falls mills to a brick mill then recently built at Putnam, Connecticut, and owned by Mr. George C. Nightingale, of Providence, and in 1857 machinery was brought from a factory at Greenville, Rhode Island, to the present stone mill belonging to Mr. Nightingale. These mills were successfully operated by Mr. Morse under contract. In 1848 the large stone mill known as the Morse mill was built and operated by M. S. Morse, G. C. Nightingale and S. Dorr, Jr., of Providence, the mill and village around it having grown up in a single year. In 1862 Mr. Morse, with his brother Alfred, purchased a cotton factory at Holden and one at Farnumsville, both in Massachusetts. He later disposed of the latter and became sole owner of the former interest. Messrs. Morse & Nightingale erected in 1872 the Powhatan mill, at the privilege above that which furnishes power for the mills owned by them at Putnam.

Mr. Morse married on the 30th of September, 1824, Susanna Blake, of Wrentham, Mass. Of their four children, the eldest, Stillman F., was drowned at Valley Falls in his thirteenth year. The surviving children are: George M., born at Central Falls August 25th, 1830; Fanny B., born at Valley Falls October 3d, 1834, and married to Andrew J. Crossman, of Providence, and Susan A., born at Valley Falls August 24th, 1838, and married to Henry A. Munroe, also of Providence. Although Mr. Morse lived to reach the border of four score years, he continued in the active supervision of his affairs until his death on the 17th of May, 1877, the result of an injury received three days previously.

Mr. Morse was much interested in the political events of his

Milton S. Morse



George M. Morse

day, and willingly co-operated in the various projects which resulted in benefit to the state and country. He, however, never aspired to office, being always engrossed in the care of his important business. His untiring ambition, accompanied with sound judgment, led to success as a business manager. During a period of forty years he never failed to meet his obligations or fulfill all financial contracts. Socially he was approachable to the most humble individual in his employ, and on his decease more than a thousand employés felt the loss of a benefactor and friend.

GEORGE M. MORSE, the second son of Milton S. and Susanna Blake Morse, spent his youth in and about the city of Providence. His early years were devoted to study at the schools of Providence, where he remained until the age of eighteen, when on removing to Putnam he interested himself for a year in the store belonging to the company with which his father was connected. Again making Providence his home, he spent several years in that city, and at Putnam, ultimately locating in the spring of 1856 in the latter place, where he was made the superintendent of the Morse mills. This responsible position he filled for many years and finally assumed the entire management of the property. In 1869 the company was granted a charter, and the year following Mr. Morse became one of the corporate owners. The Nightingale mills under the firm name of M. S. Morse & Son, were from 1858 to 1868 operated by the yard. In 1872 the Powhatan mills were erected under the personal supervision of Mr. Morse, who superintended every detail of their construction, placed the machinery, and successfully started them. Of the three corporations located at Putnam, Milton S. Morse and his son were the managers, the entire responsibility devolving upon the subject of this sketch on the death of his father. He still continues the competent head of this extensive manufacturing interest, of which his eldest son, Augustus I., is the superintendent. Mr. Morse is president of both the Morse and Powhatan companies, president of the Abbott Run mills at Cumberland, R. I., and a third owner and manager of the Holden cotton mills at Holden, Mass.

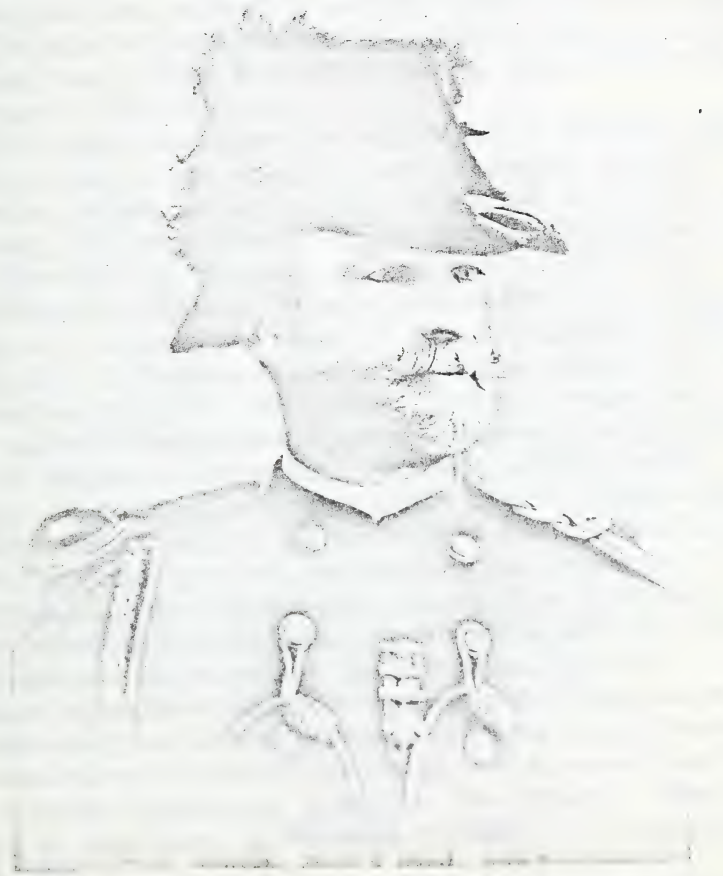
Mr. Morse is much absorbed in the varied duties pertaining to his business, and has neither taste nor leisure for matters of a political character. He is a firm advocate of the principles of the republican party, and in full sympathy with the protective

tariff views which it endorses. He has done much to promote the cause of education in his town, is a member of the managing committee, and was one of the building committee of the high school recently erected in Putnam. Mr. Morse may, with great propriety, be spoken of in connection with his sympathy and interest in all forms of Christian work. He became a member of the Baptist church of Putnam in April, 1858, in which he is a deacon, and among its most liberal supporters. His Christianity finds expression in earnest Christian labor, in a broad sympathy for his fellow-men of whatever class or condition, and in a cheerful and spontaneous giving. Not restricted by rules or tenets, he gives with a firm belief that he is simply the custodian of means which should be devoted to the glory of God and the welfare of others.

Mr. Morse was married April 13th, 1851, to Melora, daughter of Whitford Whitney of Killingly, Conn. Their children are five sons and five daughters, as follows: Frances S., deceased; Ida A., wife of Charles M. Fenner; Augustus I., married to Anne G. Dyer; Stillman F., married to Emma L. Leonard; Milton S., married to Eloise H. Busiel; George Byron, married to Maud L. Alden; Hattie M., wife of Charles Albert Luke; Alice M., wife of James Eugene Taylor; Walter N. and Blanche P.

Captain Alfred M. Parker is a lineal descendant of Captain John Parker, who commanded a detachment of colonial troops at the eventful battle of Lexington during the war of the revolution. Among the children of his son Eben, who resided in Boston, was John, also a resident of the same city, who married Rebecca Young of Boston. Their children are: Horace B., a member of the firm of Parker, Holmes & Co., of Boston; Alfred M., and two daughters, Isabella L., wife of George J. Tufts, and Ella J.

Alfred M. Parker was born October 26th, 1852, in Boston, where he resided until the age of twelve, meanwhile attending the public schools and laying the foundation for a substantial elementary education. The three succeeding years were spent in Medford, after which he removed to St. Louis, to familiarize himself with the boot and shoe trade. The firm with which he engaged managed two stores, and Captain Parker was connected in turn with both, finally transferring his relations to the more important, in which he was chief accountant. After a business connection of six years with this firm, he returned to Bos-



Alfred M. Parker

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ton, and became travelling salesman for Messrs. Batchelder & Lincoln, a prominent wholesale boot and shoe house of that city. This engagement continued for a period of four years, when Putnam became his home. Here he purchased the business of Messrs. Houghton & Crandall, boot and shoe dealers, and has since that date been actively interested in this branch of trade. Under his judicious management the sales have largely increased, a wholesale and jobbing department having been added to the retail branch of the business.

Captain Parker has, since his settlement in Putnam, been identified with its improvement, and interested himself in the various projects having for their object the welfare of the community. He was a director and one of the original promoters of the Electric Light Company, and was chiefly instrumental in the erection of a drinking fountain in the center of the village. He is an active Mason, and senior warden of Quinebaug Lodge, F. & A. M. Of Putnam Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, he has been for two years the high priest. For four years Captain Parker has held the position of second lieutenant of Company G, Third regiment, Connecticut National Guards, located in Putnam, and received promotion to the office of aide-de-camp, with the rank of captain, on the staff of General Charles P. Graham, brigadier general, commanding the Connecticut National Guards. This promotion was the result of merit, so that he may be said in truth to have won his spurs, and with them the approbation and esteem of his commanding general.

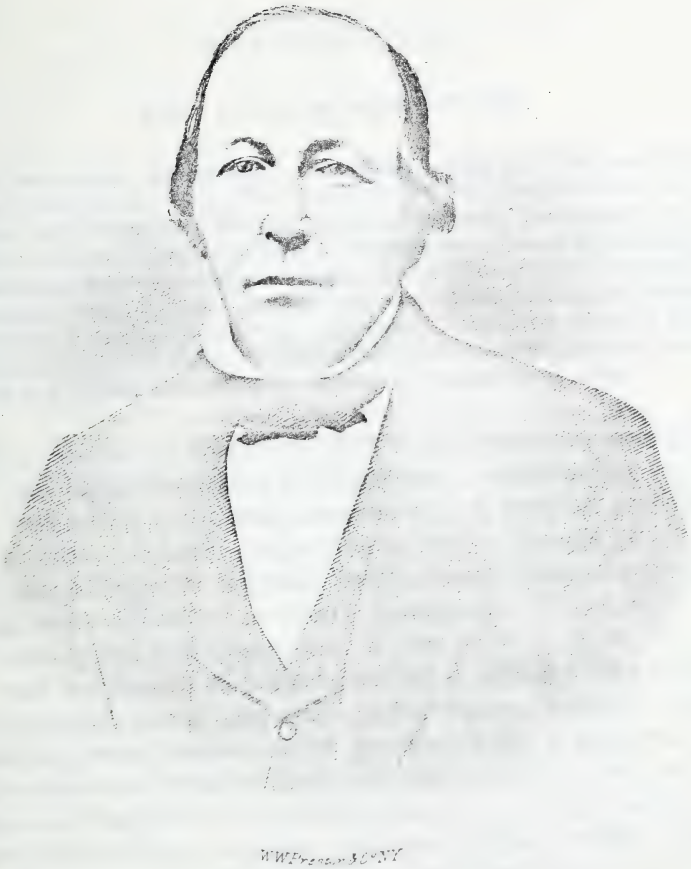
Captain Parker is accustomed to seek relaxation from the cares of an increasing business in a hunting and fishing trip on the coast of Florida during the winter months, his own convenient and attractive yacht contributing greatly to this pleasure. He was married to Miss Anne M. Howard, of Bath, Me., who died in March, 1885.

Chandler A. Spalding.—Obed Spalding married Margaret Ames. Their son, Eleazer Spalding, married Sarah Parks and resided in Killingly, now Putnam, where he owned a farm, and also during the winter months engaged in teaching. He had two children, a son, Chandler A., and a daughter, Mary Ann, wife of George W. Keith. Chandler A. Spalding was born April 24th, 1810, on the farm in Killingly, and in the residence occupied by him during his lifetime. Having the misfortune to lose his father when but twelve years of age, he began active

labor at the age of fourteen, and such was his aptitude and judgment, that soon after, with his mother, he conducted the farm. He received a common English education at the district school, but was too much engrossed with the responsible duties thus early thrown upon him to afford much time for study.

On the 11th of February, 1835, he married Charity Gilbert, of Pomfret, whose children are: Caroline C., Albert, Emily, Loren and Charles, all now deceased. Mrs. Spalding's death occurred January 4th, 1861. Mr. Spalding having already owned one-third of the estate, on his marriage purchased the remaining two-thirds from his mother and sister, thus becoming sole owner of the homestead farm, on which he settled. He married a second time January 27th, 1862, Emily, daughter of Wareham Williams, of Pomfret, who survives him.

Mr. Spalding was in politics a republican, but not ambitious for office, and filled no other positions than those which enabled him to be of service to his native town. He was one of the incorporators and a director of the Putnam National Bank. He was the projector and at one time sole owner of the Putnam Cemetery, which was platted under his personal supervision. On its organization as a corporation, he became the president and filled that office until his death, which occurred on the 2d of April, 1877. Mr. Spalding was a Christian man, giving with a cheerful and willing heart, and zealous in promoting the prosperity of the Congregational church at Putnam, of which he was a member.



C A Spaulding

CHAPTER XXXII.

THE TOWN OF WOODSTOCK.

General Description and Geology.—Aborigines.—Visit of Eliot and Gookin.—The Narragansett War.—New Roxbury Colony.—Incorporation as Woodstock and Subsequent Events.—Indian Troubles.—Important Changes.—Final Division of Roxbury's Half of Woodstock.—Second Meeting House.—Ministerial Troubles.—Indian Alarms.—Land Divisions.—Worcester County Erected.—Early Schools.—Controversy with Colonel Chandler.—Settlement of West Woodstock.—Precinct Organized.—Building of Meeting House.—Organization of Church.—Woodstock's Revolt.—Contest between Massachusetts and Connecticut.—Church Division.—Various Town Affairs.

THE northwest corner of Windham county is occupied by the ample territory of Woodstock, eight miles by seven and a half in extent, comprising an area of nearly sixty square miles. It is the largest town in the county and retains, with least change, its original limits, its only loss occurring from a slight removal of its northern boundary. Woodstock ranks high among the farming towns of the state. Its soil is excellent, and the dearth of manufacturing privileges has helped to develop agricultural interests. A micaceous formation (gneiss), extending from Pomfret to its junction with a western branch of the same near Muddy brook, in the north of the town, furnishes a soil capable of great improvement. It is characterized by a series of smoothly rounded, detached hills, in which the rock is usually covered. Rocky ledges in other parts of the town have impeded cultivation, leaving extensive forest tracts, making the lumber interest of permanent value. A granitic formation in the south of the town is well adapted for quarrying, having furnished hearth stones and building material to succeeding generations since the first settlement of the town. The west of the town is favored with a large deposit of bog iron ore, especially in the neighborhood of Black pond, where it is said a single pit yielded a hundred and fifty tons of ore. Mineral springs, near the present residence of Deacon Abel Child, enjoyed a wide popularity for a season. Woodstock's variety of soil, nearness

to market, its wide-awake Farmer's Club, Grange and Agricultural Society, have stimulated culture and experiment and brought the general administration of farming affairs to a high standard. Attempts to utilize its small streams—Muddy brook, Bungee and Saw Mill brook—for manufacturing purposes have been less successful. Other manufacturing enterprises have met with varying success.

This Woodstock territory was first known to the whites as a part of Wabbaquasset, a country run over and conquered by the Mohegans, and subject to Uncas. Its name signifies "the mat-producing country," and was probably derived from some marsh or meadow that produced valuable reeds for mats and baskets. It included land west of the Quinebaug, north of a westward line from Acquiunk Falls, now at Danielsonville. The Indians living in this section were known as Wabbaquassets. They were apparently few in number and inferior in character, abjectly submissive to the great sachem Uncas, paying "him homage and obligations, and yearly tribute of white deer skins, bear skins and black wolf skins." The south part of what is now Woodstock is supposed to have been one of their favorite haunts. The smooth hills were burnt over every year to furnish fresh pasture for deer, and corn was grown there as far back as the first settlement of Boston. When news was borne through Nipnet to Wabbaquasset that Englishmen at the Bay lacked corn, and would pay a good price for it, a stout young Indian lad, Acquittimaug, trudged through the wilderness with his father with sacks of corn upon their backs to sell to the Englishmen.

Apart from this incident nothing is known of the aboriginal inhabitants of Woodstock, until the Indian converts of John Eliot found their way there. Two of these youths, trained at Natic in a school of virtue and piety, inspired by the teachings and example of the reverend apostle, sought to carry "good tidings" to their benighted countrymen at Wabbaquasset. They were sons of Petavit, sachem at Hamannesset (now Grafton), and are described as hopeful, pious and active young men. The younger, Sampson, "an active and ingenius person," had been before conversion dissolute in conduct, "lived very uncomfortably with his wife," but the transforming power of divine grace had been made more manifest thereby, and his mission work at Wabbaquasset was remarkably successful. Laboring alone among these untutored savages, within four years he had gath-

ered thirty families into an orderly community, had instructed them in the principles of religion, established divine worship and persuaded them to assume in some degree the habits of civilized life. They cultivated the land, raised great crops of corn and beans, and built wigwams, the like of which were not to be seen in New England. The precise locality of this Indian settlement has not been ascertained, but it was in the south part of the tract, near the present "Quasset," or in the vicinity of South Woodstock. A fort was maintained westward on what is now Fort hill, which was called the "second fort in the Nipmuck country."

The report of Major Daniel Gookin, "magistrate over the Praying Indians," of Mr. Eliot's tour among these Indians in 1674, enables us to see them as with our own eyes. With five or six godly persons and a number of Indian guides and followers, they visited the new "Praying Towns" planted by Eliot's missionaries. After spending the night at Chaubunakongkomuk (near Dudley), where Sampson's brother Joseph was teacher, they proceeded in the morning to Myanexet, "west of a fresh river called Mohegan" (now New Boston) where a village had been gathered. To these twenty families with others Mr. Eliot preached in the Indian tongue from the words, "Lift up your heads, O ye gates, ... and the King of Glory shall come in," words which a swift messenger bore with all speed to the king of darkness at Mohegan. John Moqua, a pious and sober person, was presented to the people to be their minister, and a suitable psalm read by him was sung by the assembly. After a closing prayer the missionary band proceeded on their way, following the Connecticut Path, the main thoroughfare of travel between the colonies, for a part of the journey, diverging thence by Indian trail to the Wabbaquasset settlement. "Late in the evening," September 15th, they reached the sagamore's famous wigwam, sixty feet in length and twenty feet in width. The chief was absent, but his squaw received them courteously, and provided liberally in Indian fashion for their followers. The "active and ingenius" Sampson, rejoicing in the fruit of his labors, must have given them a hearty welcome, and "divers of the principal people that were at home" came to the wigwam, with whom they "spent a good part of the night in prayer, singing psalms and exhortations."

"It was a scene that has been many times repeated in mission-

ary experience, the grave and earnest men of God with the wild natives wondering and questioning at their feet, but one incident on this occasion was of unique occurrence. A grim Indian among them, "sitting mute a great space, at last spake to this effect—that he was agent for Uncas, sachem of Mohegan, who challenged right to and dominion over this people of Wabbaquasset. And said he, '*Uncas is not well pleased* that the English should pass over Mohegan River to call his Indians to pray to God.'" The timid Wabbaquassets might well have quailed at this lofty message from their sovereign lord, but Mr. Eliot replied calmly, "That it *was* his *work* to call upon all men everywhere, as he had opportunity, especially the Indians, to repent and embrace the Gospel, but he did not meddle with civil right or jurisdiction." Gookin, as magistrate, further explained and desired the messenger to inform Uncas, that Wabbaquasset was within the jurisdiction of Massachusetts, and that the government of that people did belong to them, yet it was not intended to abridge the Indian sachems of their just and ancient right over the Indians in respect of paying tribute or any other dues, but the main desire of the English was to bring them to the good knowledge of God in Christ Jesus, and to suppress among them their sins.

The morning following, September 16th, 1674, is one of the most notable in Woodstock history. The tidings of the progress of the missionary band had been borne far and wide, Indians from Myanexet, Quinnatisset and all the surrounding country, had come together to see and hear them, and at an early hour a public service was held. Tradition still points out the rock at the north extremity of Plaine hill that served as pulpit for John Eliot. Gookin and other godly persons stood beside him, and the throng of swarthy Indians pressed around their feet. Sampson began the service, "reading and setting the CXIX P's, first part, which was sung." Mr. Eliot offered prayer, and then preached to them in Indian out of Matthew, vi. 33, "First seek the kingdom of Heaven and the righteousness thereof, and all these things shall be added unto you."

Prayer closed the religious exercises, and then a civil service was enacted. Law *following* the Gospel presentation on this occasion, Gookin as magistrate, representing the authority of Massachusetts Bay, laid down the rules of civil government, confirming Sampson as public teacher, and Black James of Chau-

bunakongkomuck as constable, charging each to be diligent and faithful in his place, and exhorting the people to yield obedience to the Gospel of Christ and to those set in order there. He then published a warrant or order, empowering the constable to suppress drunkenness, Sabbath breaking, especially powwowing and idolatry, and to apprehend all delinquents and bring them before authority to answer for their misdeeds. Having thus established religious and civil ordinances, the visitors took leave of the people of Wabbaquasset and turned their footsteps homeward with thankfulness and joy at what had been accomplished.

The dreams and hopes of the good apostle, of Christianizing and civilizing the tribes that had long sat in darkness, seemed likely to be quickly realized. Churches and villages had been gathered and religious and civil institutions established. Ministers and constables had been formally established in office, and all was peace and order. A few short months and all was desolate. A ferocious war between whites and Indians obliterated the results of years of fruitful labor. The villages were destroyed, the churches vanished, the praying Indians relapsed into barbarous savages. Black James, Sampson, and other converts took sides with King Philip. The Wabbaquassets left their homes and planting fields and took up their abode at Mohegan. Captain Thomas of Providence, passing through Wapososhequash in pursuit of Philip, in August, 1675, reports "a very good inland country, well watered with rivers and brooks, special good land, great quantities of special good corn and beans, and stately wigwams as I never saw the like, but not one Indian to be seen." In the following summer Major Talcott, of Norwich, passed through Wabbaquasset, where he found a fort and some forty acres of growing corn, but no enemy. Demolishing fort and destroying the corn, they proceeded on their way. The Wabbaquassets during the war performed some slight services for Uncas, and were rewarded by the Connecticut government, and continued for some years afterward under his protection.

As soon as possible after the restoration of peace, Massachusetts arranged to take possession of the conquered territory. William Stoughton and Joseph Dudley were commissioned by the general court to treat with the Indian claimants and agree with them upon the easiest terms attainable. February 10th, 1682, negotiations were completed by which the whole Nipmuck

country, from the northern part of Massachusetts to a point called Nash-a-way, at the junction of the Quinebaug and French rivers, Connecticut—a tract fifty by forty miles in extent—was made over to the government of the Bay colony, for the sum of fifty pounds, a reservation of five miles square being also allowed the Indians. Colonization was the immediate result of this cession. Plantation in New England was quickly followed by emigration. The mother towns were not able to furnish homes for new comers, and the many children of the first planters. The flourishing town of Roxbury was especially hampered in this respect, "its limits being so scanty and not capable of enlargement" that many families were forced to find other settlements. Eagerly its inhabitants welcomed the opening of the Nipmuck country as furnishing a wider field for their superabundant population.

In October, 1683, its selectmen petitioned the general court for a tract of land seven miles square, "for the enlargement of the town and the encouragement of its inhabitants," the land to be laid out at Quinnatisset or thereabouts, if a convenient way may be found there. This prayer was granted on condition that previous grantees had the first choice, and "that thirty families be settled on said plantation within three years, and maintain among them an able, orthodox, godly minister." The town accepted the conditions, and in the following year sent out Lieutenant Samuel Ruggles, John Ruggles, John Curtis and Edward Morris, "To view the premises and find a convenient place to take up her grant." With Indian guides they made their way through the wilderness and carefully viewed the premises. Quinnatisset (now Thompson), for which they had asked, was already appropriated, and farms laid out to English owners, but land adjacent at Senexet and Wabbaquasset they thought commodious for a settlement.

The town accepted their information, October 27th, 1684, and chose a suitable committee, "to draw up, upon consideration, propositions that may be most equable and prudent for the settlement of the place." Inhabitants unwilling to assume the responsibility of carrying forward the work had liberty to withdraw without offense, and be free from further charges. All others were to be held responsible for the settlement and expenses of the Nipmuck colony. The following year farther arrangements were made, the town agreeing to give to the actual

settlers one-half the entire grant, and a hundred pounds in money, to be laid out in public works, but it was not till the third year that they proceeded to take possession. A number of pioneers having voluntereed to go in advance and prepare the way for the main body, it was voted in town meeting, March 4th, 1686, "That such should have liberty to break up land and plant anywhere they please without being bound to accept it as their share of the grant." This advance guard, thirteen in number, viz., Benjamin Sabin, Jonathan Smithers, Henry Bowen, John Frizzell, Matthew Davis, Nathaniel Gary, Thomas Bacon, John Marcy, Peter Aspinwall, Benjamin and George Griggs, Joseph Lord and Ebenezer Morris left Roxbury about April 1st, and having surmounted the perils of the journey, made record that on April 5th, 1686, "Several persons came as planters and settlers and took actual possession (by breaking up land and planting corn) of the land granted to Roxbury (called by the planters New Roxbury; by the Antient natives Wapaquasset.)"

Through Senexet valley in the east of the tract they passed on southward, making headquarters at Plaine hill. In the vale eastward they planted corn fields and set up a saw mill on a small brook running toward the lake. The larger stream feeding the lake was given the name of their own Muddy brook in Roxbury. No curious natives disturbed their solitude. The Wabbaquassets were still sojourning in Mohegan. In May they were visited by a deputation from Roxbury, which came with Surveyor Gore to take a more formal survey of the tract, settle the south bound, and determine the length and breadth of the grant, so that the first "Go-ers" might make an intelligent choice. Eleven days were spent in exploring and surveying. Massachusetts' south bound, an unknown, disputed, almost imaginary line, making much trouble between Massachusetts and Connecticut, could not be identified, but a substitute was devised by affixing a station about one and a half miles south of Plaine hill, and thence marking trees in line, east and west. The south bound thus obtained was nearly two miles south of the "Woodward and Saffery Line," claimed by Massachusetts and about eight miles south of the south bound finally established. Other arrangements were made and the committee returned in time to report proceedings, June 12th, at Roxbury.

A vigorous new colony "boom" had now set in and much interest was manifested. The prescribed quota of thirty planters

was already full and others were pressing in. Men were known in town "under the denomination" of "Go-ers" or "Stay-ers;" men from adjacent towns were craving admittance and permission was granted to admit such with the "Goers," "if the selectmen of Roxbury and other Go-ers do approve them." July 21st, an especial meeting was held for the more orderly settling the aforesaid village or grant, when the following agreement was adopted:

"I. That every man should take up what number of acres he pleaseth in his home lot, not exceeding thirty; and after-rights and divisions of land shall arise according to the proportion of his home lot, and all after-charges to arise proportionably upon the home lots for the first six years.

"II. That whoever shall neglect the payment of his rate two months after a rate is made and demanded, shall forfeit for every five shillings two acres of his home lot with all proportionable rights, and so, more or less, according to his failure; always provided that they take not his house nor orchard. . . . . .

"III. If any meadows should fall out to be in any one's home lot it shall be accounted as so much of his proportion of meadow, and his home lot made up with upland.

"IV. That all persons that have planted in the year 1686 shall have two acres of his home lot free for the first three years, and shall enjoy the land they planted in 1687 and '88, though it fall out in any other person's home lot.

"V. That within one month they will go personally to their new plantation, and there make farther agreements, divisions and settlements."

The fifth article of the agreement was faithfully carried out. Within the specified month they set out upon their distant pilgrimage—the forty men who had enrolled themselves "Go-ers," and a fair proportion of their families. Of all circumstances connected with the fitting out, departure and journey of the colony we are wholly ignorant. On foot and horseback, with cart and cattle, they traversed the well-worn Connecticut path, or the newer way laid out by Major Pynchon through the Oxford grant, to meet a joyful welcome from the waiting pioneers. In their five months' residence the thirteen planters had made a good beginning. Three distinct sites, suitable for villages, had been selected and on the northern extremity of Plaine hill a house or hall, intended for general use, had been put up. The first pub-

lic meeting was held August 25th, "at New Roxbury, alias Wapaquasset," at the Wabbaquasset Hall, when the planters voted to take the south half of the tract for their portion, and "that the place where the home lots shall begin shall be upon the Plaine Hill."

Finding some difficulty in arranging plans of settlement, on the following day the planters agreed to select seven men to state needful highways, and a lot for the minister, and consider of land convenient for the planters to settle on, and for a convenient place for a meeting house to stand on. Each planter also specified the number of acres he desired in his home lot, according as he was able and willing to carry on public charges, and liberty was given for any one to select any particular piece of land he might desire, otherwise it would be settled "as the lots shall fall by a lot." The seven wise men selected for this service were the oldest, and, inferentially, the wisest in the company, viz.: Joseph Griggs, Edward Morris, Henry Bowen, Sr., John Chandler, Sr., Samuel Craft, Samuel Scarborough and Jonathan Smithers. Assisted by the thirteen pioneers, and the surveys they had already accomplished, the work assigned was soon despatched, and on Saturday, August 26th, 1686 (old style), the company of emigrants met on Plaine hill, "in order to draw lots where their home lots should be."

The seven wise men chosen for laying out and pitching the town, had decided upon the three locations previously referred to—"the Plaine hill," the "Westward hill" adjacent, and the Eastward vale, now South Woodstock, and laid out or assigned suitable home lots in each. They had also marked out and ordered convenient highways, viz.: 1. A highway, eight rods wide, running along the Plaine (hill), extending to a brook at the north end of the eastward vale, running by marked trees; thence southward along the vale to another brook, six rods wide, with a cross highway four rods wide about the middle, where it may be most convenient when the lots are laid out. 2. From the north end of Plaine hill, a highway eight rods wide, to the east side of the westward hill; thence northward four rods wide and so on circuiting the hill; which were considered sufficient for present use. They had also agreed that the meeting house should stand upon the Plaine hill, and that the lots should begin upon the north end of Plaine hill, adjacent to Wabbaquasset Hall.

The business of the day was carried forward with much formality and dignity. It was no common band of emigrants that were laying the foundations of Woodstock, but leading men from one of the most prominent and prosperous towns in Massachusetts, whose people were the best that came over from England. In troublous times, a narrow-minded Catholic bigot upon the throne of Great Britain, the charter of Massachusetts taken away, a royal governor imminent, they hoped to find in this distant settlement a place of refuge from despotic extortion. Thus, with religious ceremonies, as well as legal formality, they made their distribution. The place of meeting was doubtless Wabbaquasset Hall. The seven seniors, who had served as committee, occupied the place of honor. The settlers had ranged themselves in three bodies, according to their choice in matter of location, and each company in turn presented itself before the honorable committee. "Liberty was given to those that desired to sit down on the Plaine hill, to draw by themselves. Others desiring to sit down in the eastward vale had liberty to draw for that by themselves," and those wishing to sit down on the westward hill had the same liberty allowed them. Four of the elder settlers, who had made choice of particular lots, then stepped forward and manifested their choice, viz., John Chandler, Sr., Samuel Scarborough, Samuel Craft, William Lyon, Sr. "Solemn prayer to God, who is the disposer of all things," was then offered for his guidance and blessing, followed by the drawing of lots by the three companies in succession, "every man being satisfied and contented with God's disposal." Thirty-eight persons received allotments on this occasion, viz.:

1. Thomas and Joseph Bacon, thirty acres.
2. James Corbin, twenty acres.
3. Minister's lot, twenty acres.
4. Benjamin Sabin, twenty acres.
5. Henry Bowen, fifteen acres.
6. Thomas Lyon, sixteen acres.
7. Ebenezer Morris, eighteen acres.
8. Matthew Davis, sixteen acres.
9. William Lyon, Sr., and Ebenezer Cass.

These lots were all laid out on Plaine hill. It had been previously voted "by the company of Go-ers," that whosoever took up their land upon the Plaine, on the northward side of Mill brook, should have one-third part of land added to their home

lots, viz., three acres for two on account of the inferior quality of the land. Seventeen lots were then assigned in the eastward vale, viz.:

10. John Chandler, Sr., thirty acres.
11. Peter Aspinwall, twenty acres.
12. John Frizzell, twenty acres.
13. Joseph Frizzell, twenty acres.
14. Jonathan Smithers, thirty acres.
15. John Butcher, sixteen acres.
16. Jonathan Davis, eighteen acres.
17. Jonathan Peake, twenty acres.
18. Nathaniel Gary, fifteen acres.
19. John Bowen, fifteen acres.
20. Nathaniel Johnson, sixteen acres.
21. John Hubbard, ten acres.
22. George Griggs, fifteen acres.
23. Benjamin Griggs, fifteen acres.
24. William Lyon, Jr., fifteen acres.
25. John Leavens, twenty acres.
26. Nathaniel Sanger, twenty acres.

Lots 27, Samuel Scarborough, and 28, Samuel Craft, were laid out on the east side of Plaine hill.

The home lots on the westward hill were made over to eight persons, viz.:

29. Samuel May, fifteen acres.
30. Joseph Bugbee, fifteen acres.
31. Samuel Peacock, ten acres.
32. Arthur Humphrey, twelve acres.
33. John Bugbee, fifteen acres.
34. John Ruggles, twenty acres.
35. Andrew Watkins, twenty acres.
36. John Marcy, fifteen acres.

Lot 37, Edward Morris, thirty acres, was laid out east side of Plaine hill, "bounded west by the great highway; south partly by land reserved for public use and partly by land of Samuel Craft and Samuel Scarborough; east by common land; north upon the highway that goeth from the street to the Great Pond."

It was agreed by vote that the number of shares should be limited to fifty. The remaining allotments were distributed within six years to the following settlers:

38. Joseph Peake, twenty acres.
39. John Holmes, twenty acres.
40. John Chandler, Jr., twenty acres.
41. William Bartholomew, fifteen acres.
42. Isaac Bartholomew, ten acres.
43. Clement Corbin, twenty acres.
44. Samuel Rice, fifteen acres.
45. William Bartholomew, Jr., ten acres.
46. Joseph Bugbee, Jr., ten acres.
47. Nathaniel Johnson, Jr., ten acres.
48. Jabez Corbin, fifteen acres.
49. William Bartholomew, Sr., twenty acres.
51. Benjamin Sabin, Jr.
52. Philip Eastman, twenty acres.
50. Reserved for ministry.*

These fifty proprietors were all previous residents of Roxbury, with the exception of Peter Aspinwall, of Dorchester; John Holmes, Dorchester; the three Corbins from Muddy river (Brooklyn); the Bartholomews, from Branford; John Butcher, Boston; Philip Eastman, Haverhill. Many were united by family ties, as fathers, sons and brothers. Of the older men, Henry Bowen, Samuel Craft, William Lyon, Sr., Samuel May, Samuel Scarborough, returned to their Roxbury homes, leaving their New Roxbury land with sons or purchasers. Jonathan Smithers, John Bowen, William Lyon, Jr., John Ruggles, failed to retain possession. About forty of the original proprietors remained in possession of their home lots thus assigned to them—the fathers and founders of the town of Woodstock. All subsequent divisions of land in the south half of the grant were based upon the number of acres in each man's home lot, and public charges were laid in the same proportion. Part of the "Go-ers" had brought their wives and children, and hastened to put up houses and establish household life. November 3d, 1686, a proprietors' meeting was held at the house of Thomas Lyon. John Chandler, Sr., Joseph Bugbee and Edward Morris were chosen a committee for the oversight and ordering of public affairs. A committee was also chosen "to treat with young Mr. John Wilson

* A Chart showing the laying out of the original home lots and highways, and a large Map giving ancient and modern homesteads, highways, and all noteworthy localities, have been carefully prepared for the forthcoming History of Woodstock, but are not within the scope of the present work.

of Medfield to come and preach to the planters in order to settlement." Religious services were held in the open air this first autumn, a large rock by the roadside on the way to the westward hill serving for a pulpit; but settlement was not sufficiently advanced for a stated minister.

As the older men returned to Roxbury, and winter closed in around them, the little colony realized more fully its isolation and exposure. The nearest settlements on the north were Oxford and Worcester, and many miles of savage wilderness lay between them and the far-off towns, Providence, Norwich and Hartford. The future populous counties, Worcester and Windham, were as yet unsurveyed and almost unbroken, inhabited by wild beasts and more ferocious savages. Alone in this vast tract of wintry desolation, they took counsel together around the scattered hearthstones and laid plans for coming years. Scouts were kept up patrolling the settlements, to guard from Indian alarm, and houses fortified to serve as places of refuge.

As early as possible spring work was begun. April 29th, 1687, Edward Morris, Nathaniel Johnson and Joseph White were commissioned by the planters to treat and agree for the building of a corn mill, on as reasonable terms as they could. William Bartholomew, of Branford, a former resident of Roxbury, was the person selected and secured, with urgent persuasion, "For building a corn mill on the falls below Muddy Brook pond (now Harrisville) and finding the town with grinding good meal, clear of grit." He received a place at the falls to set a mill, a fifteen acre home lot with rights, a hundred acres of upland, and afterward an additional twenty acre home lot, "provided he bring his wife and settle upon it." July 2d, John Chandler, Sr., Nathaniel Johnson, Joseph Bugbee, James White and Joseph Peake were chosen to order the prudential affairs of the place as selectmen for the year ensuing. John Holmes assumed the charge of running the saw mill, receiving the land on which the mill stood, three or four acres, bounded east and north by Saw Mill brook, laid out for the town's use, provided he leave convenient way to carry timber to mill.

March 12th, 1688, the planters appointed seven men, viz., Edward Morris, John Chandler, Sr., Benjamin Sabin, Joseph Bugbee, William Bartholomew, Samuel Rice, John Bugbee, to state and settle highways and make return in writing. These seven men were empowered to end the controversy between

Samuel Rice and John Marcy about their home lots; also to allow Joseph Bacon to take up the remainder of his brother Thomas's lot, provided he come and settle here by the 12th of April next, and to rectify various under and over allotments. Attending to this work "with all expedition," on March 18th the committee reported seventeen highways necessary for the good of the town. A number of these were two rods wide, accommodating the settlers with ways to the mills or Planting hill in the tract. The most important was a road eight rods wide "running from the brook at the northward end of the eastward vale to go and be by the pond through the plaine to Muddy brook, from thence up to the Plaine Hill," and also one going out from this highway "to lead to the road called Connecticut Road," extending through the intervale west side Muddy brook. Little else was accomplished during the year; a bridge was built near John Chandler's; orchards were set out with famous russets and other slips brought from Roxbury, but there was small encouragement to effort.

"His Excellency, Sir Edmond Andros, gov.-general of his majesty's territories and dominions of New England," had not yet granted a patent of confirmation. Again and again the matter was earnestly discussed by the fathers of the settlement, a majority pledging themselves to pay all charges necessary for securing it, according to their proportion. Most humble petitions, both from old Roxbury and the new plantation, were laid before this despotic ruler, praying that their land might be confirmed to them "on such moderate quit rent as may be agreeable to your Excellency's wisdom, and the great distance and poverty of place and inhabitants will allow." No notice was taken of these requests. Loftier prey was sought by the rapacious governor. Their very poverty and distance gave them security. Roxbury suffered with other prosperous towns from his exactions, and was unable to advance the money promised to her "Go-ers." Meeting house, schools, all public improvements were thus left in abeyance, and the New Roxbury settlers could only bide their time and improve their own home lots. A few new residents came during this interval. Sons of the first comers became of age and received allotments. The first death was that of Joseph Peake, Sr., whose place on the committee was filled by Samuel Scarborough, March 1st, 1688. The first birth reported was that of Nathaniel Gary, November 6th, 1686. Sam-

uel Rice, Stephen Sabin, John Marcy, John Hubbard, Hannah Gary and Rebekah Bacon were also reported before 1690. John Holmes and Hannah Newell were married April 9th, 1690.

The breaking out of King William's war in 1689 aroused fresh apprehension of Indian assault. "In the sense of our great hazard and danger, and our incapacity to defend ourselves," the inhabitants of New Roxbury met together and organized as a military company, making choice of Edward Morris for lieutenant and William Bartholomew, Jr., ensign. A paper attesting this choice "as the act and desire of the soldiers," was laid before the government by John Chandler, Joseph Bugbee and Benjamin Sabin. This nomination was allowed and confirmed by the representatives, and consented to by the governor, July 13th, 1689.

The revolution of 1688, deposing King James II. and his governors, and establishing King William upon the throne of Britain, brought new life and hope to the New Roxbury colony. Both town and colony hastened before the court with a petition for confirmation, name and further privileges. Its failure to procure the settlement of an orthodox minister was generously overlooked in consideration of the "great over-turns" that had been, and in March, 1690, "the petition was granted by the deputies and honorable magistrates consenting." March 15th, it was further voted, "That the name of the plantation granted to Roxbury be Woodstock," a name selected by Captain Samuel Sewall, afterward chief justice, with veritable prophetic instinct, "because of its nearness to Oxford, for the sake of Queen Elizabeth, and the notable meetings that have been held at the place bearing the name in England." With joy and gratitude the inhabitants received the tidings, and formerly inscribed upon their records—"Woodstock, March 31, 1690.—We the selectmen of Woodstock, formerly called New Roxbury, being met together, have made a rate for levying the whole charge of said place on each inhabitant according to a vote of the town, the sum of which amounts unto £124, 10s. in pay; the other part amounts unto £31, 7s. 4½d., in money, which whole rate is delivered to Constable John Holmes, to gather forthwith for the town's use as the selectmen shall order."

The important question of providing for divine worship was now brought under consideration. Mr. Josiah Dwight, of Dedham, a youth of twenty, who had already graduated from Har-

vard College and pursued ministerial studies, was even then preaching to the people. The selectmen were empowered to treat with him about settling in the work of the ministry, and soon made satisfactory agreement, offering the twenty acre home lot with town rights and divisions, and to build and finish a house for him, with a salary of thirty pounds, increasing ten pounds annually till it became sixty pounds. October 27th, William Bartholomew, Sr., Nathaniel Johnson and Benjamin Sabin were appointed a committee "to manage the building a minister's house 40 x 19, 14 feet stud, a cellar seventeen feet square, a stack of four chimneys and two gables." A committee was also chosen to assist the selectmen in writing to Roxbury to demand the money "due to us by their agreement." At this same meeting John Chandler, Sr., was chosen first selectman in place of that most worthy and prominent citizen, Lieutenant Edward Morris, deceased.

The annual town meeting was held November 27th. John Chandler, Jr., was chosen town clerk; John Chandler, Sr., William Bartholomew, Benjamin Sabin, John Leavens and Joseph Bugbee, selectmen, in whose hands was placed "the whole power of the town, excepting granting lands and admitting inhabitants;" Jonathan Peake, Matthew Davis, Samuel Rice, surveyors. It was voted that the meadows be divided in two divisions, good and bad, each by itself, John Butcher, surveyor. Also, that the town be at the charge of digging clay, tempering of it, making a yard, cutting wood and carting it for bricks for the minister's chimneys. As cattle had free range and often lost themselves, a substantial pound was ordered, "to stand nigh to Matthew Davis's fence in the front of his lot near the highway." The houses of Benjamin Sabin and Nathaniel Johnson in the south and east extremities of the settlements, were designated as watch houses, to be securely fortified, and a later vote required that every man should get a ladder for his house, Jonathan Peake having the oversight thereof, and forfeiting five shillings for every man found lacking. Every man was also ordered to bring in the ear-mark of his creatures to be recorded by the town clerk. As no arrangements for schools were yet practicable, "it was requested and procured that John Chandler, Jr., teach and instruct children and youth how to write and cypher." In regard to the various "quarrels" that were pending the town did oblige itself "to stand to the determination of the General Court's Committee."

In 1691 bridges received much attention. Peter Aspinwall mended the bridge by John Chandler's; Samuel Rice was ordered "to mend the ways about West hill, and especially care for the bridges beyond Wabbaquasset hill on Connecticut road." Jonathan Peake and Matthew Davis were enjoined to mend the ways about town, and make two bridges between Lieutenant Bartholomew's and Benjamin Sabin's, in the most suitable places, and to repair the bridge by Joseph Frizzell's. The town also agreed to be at the charge of a road to Providence, by making a way unto the cedar swamp, on the other side of Quinebaug river; "Benjamin Sabin to oversee the work and take account of the same;" Peter Aspinwall, substitute. Work on the minister's house went leisurely forward, and measures were initiated for building a meeting house. John Leavens, Edward Morris, Jonathan Peake, John Chandler, Sr., were appointed building committee, with power to let out the whole of the work, and make a rate proportionately on each inhabitant, and oblige themselves to pay the same and in such specie as they shall promise to the workmen. John Holmes was apparently the man selected, and a time limited for the completion of the house. A man was to be allowed two shillings a day for working, or two and threepence, he finding himself diet; five shillings if with a team of four cattle. During the following year work dragged slowly. Roxbury deferred the payment of the promised money, and Indians gave serious annoyance. Ancient Wabbaquassets had returned to their old home drunken and refractory, averse to Massachusetts' dominion. Their chief, Tokekamowootchaug, was as barbarous as his name, and better disposed Indians were brought to death's door by his unruly followers. A petition from Woodstock's selectmen, February, 1692, reported many outrages, but it was found very difficult to restrain or punish the offenders.

Relations with Roxbury continued inharmonious. In the course of 1693 the minister's house was sufficiently completed to serve for public meetings. The selectmen and town clerk were directed to consider of and compile such by-laws and orders as might be for the benefit of the town. A clerk of the market was added to town officers. During this year Woodstock attained "the conveniency of a shop," twelve square rods adjoining Clement Corbin's lot being granted to his son, Jabez, for that purpose. The spot assigned was near the site of the present post office on Woodstock hill. The three Corbins were settled at the

north end of Plaine hill, and this shop became a noted institution. The brothers, James and Jabez, were energetic traders, taking in furs, turpentine and any marketable product to exchange for goods in Boston. Their heavily laden cart toiled back and forth over the rough highway. James Corbin also traded or speculated extensively in land, and was a very prominent personage. John Chandler, Jr., was becoming very widely known as a land surveyor, much employed by Connecticut land operators. Marrying Mary Raymond, of New London, he spent much time in that town, surveying land for Major James Fitch, agent for the Mohegans, and practically master of all their territory. Captain Chandler was also town and proprietor's clerk at home, and detailed on other public service.

After much disagreement and discussion upon relations with Roxbury, it was voted, September 6th, "That the town do forthwith make choice of one man, who shall join with Captain Chapin, of Mendon, to go to Roxbury and agree and determine all matters supposed to be in difference, particularly the hundred pounds and the remaining part of land, and what they agree to shall be stood to by the town"—passed by a very clear vote, with some dissenters. John Butcher was the man chosen, and all difficulties were happily surmounted. November 3d the town was made acquainted with proceedings of Roxbury, agreement of committee and Captain Chapin's account of service done, and "generally manifested their desire of thanks to be given for his service." Part of the money received was appropriated toward finishing the minister's house, and ten pounds allowed for nails and irons for the meeting house; the remainder delivered to Mr. Dwight, to be kept till the town should call for it. In March, 1694, the committee empowered to build a house for the minister was commanded to deliver the same and also the lot, with all its appurtenances, to Mr. Dwight, our minister. In November of the same year the meeting house was ready for occupation, and the old hall, or White House, appraised by indifferent men and sold for town charges.

In the following year the church was organized, by a council of Massachusetts churches, and Reverend Josiah Dwight ordained and installed as its pastor. Unfortunately, all record of its formation is lacking, but undoubtedly its members were mostly dismissed from the mother church of Roxbury, with which they had maintained connection. John Chandler, Sr., and Benjamin

Sabin were elected deacons. During this year a second land division was effected—forty acres to each twenty-acre home lot, and to all proprietors in that proportion—extending from the east line, east side the pond, to four miles westward. William Bartholomew, Benjamin Sabin, Benjamin Griggs, with the surveyor, John Butcher, were commissioned to perform the work under specific directions. Fifty-one lots were laid out and distributed. Samuel Perrin, John Carpenter, Edmond Chamberlain, David Knight and other new settlers appeared, taking the place of first proprietors. Several pieces of land were reserved for public uses, viz., the site of the meeting house, a square piece of land in front of James Corbin's, containing four or five acres, for training place and burial ground (part of the present Woodstock common), another strip between Jabez Corbin's and the highway, and several pieces for the maintenance of schools. Land reserved for the support of the ministers was ordered to be fenced and planted with orchards. At the same time a division of the north half was in progress under Roxbury's direction, John Butcher, surveyor. William Bartholomew and Benjamin Sabin joined with Roxbury's committee "in stating and settling the dividend line between the inhabitants of Woodstock and Roxbury." A highway four rods wide was laid out upon this line. Roxbury's land was laid out in nine parallel ranges, running north from this highway with highways between. About a third of the north half was laid out and the lots made over to 142 proprietors. The remainder of the stipulated hundred pounds was then paid over to Woodstock, and all accounts harmoniously settled. This payment enabled Woodstock to settle her own accounts; pay Mr. Dwight his dues "from the beginning of the world to May 6, 1696;" square up all arrearages for meeting house and town charges, and indulge in a special wolf-rate "to pay to those who kill the wolves."

Stringent laws had then been passed for the maintenance of proper authority. Those neglecting to work upon the highway after suitable warning should forfeit three shillings. A fine of one and sixpence was ordered for neglecting town meetings; sixpence for not appearing at the hour appointed, and an additional sixpence for every following hour. March 2d, farther rules were enacted; Jonathan Peake was chosen constable; Nathaniel Johnson, to collect town rates and minister's salary, receiv-

ing ten shillings, cash, "and such rates as he does not gather he is to pay the same out of his own estate." Selectmen were instructed: 1. To secure the town from all damages and penalties of the law sustained through their neglect. 2. In raising town charges, all male heads to be rated threepence per head from sixteen years old and upward; home lots, meadows, at a penny an acre; divisional addition, halfpenny an acre; horses, cattle and swine as they are valued in law. 3. That every person do bring an exact note of their estates August 1st; Samuel Perrin, Ebenezer Morris, surveyors; Nathaniel Aspinwall, David Knight, fence viewers. The same day Deacons Chandler and Sabin, Lieutenant Bartholomew, Nathaniel Johnson and John Leavens were appointed a committee to seat the meeting house, observing as rules, "what persons have paid and do pay, and to respect age." John Carpenter and Peter Aspinwall were afterward added to the committee for managing the affair of finishing the meeting house, viz., John Chandler, Sr., and Edward Morris; and Samuel Taylor allowed twelve shillings a year for sweeping.

Thus in ten years the Roxbury colony was comfortably established, but clouds were gathering. The long-continued war between France and England incited their Indian allies to shocking atrocities. New England was exposed to constant alarm and assault from the fierce Mohawks and restless Canadian Indians. An isolated, frontier town like Woodstock was especially exposed, and the insubordination of its own Indian residents added to their uneasiness. These Wabbaquassets were inimical to Massachusetts and her authority, but most fortunately at this epoch they were willing to yield allegiance to Lieutenant John Sabin, half brother of Deacon Sabin, who had established himself just over Woodstock line, within Connecticut limits. Under his leadership Woodstock's military position was greatly strengthened. Watch houses were fortified, scouts maintained, military discipline enforced, the Indians looked after and brought within Sabin's fortifications.

Woodstock's first serious alarm occurred in the August of 1696, just ten years from the date of settlement. A band of marauders fell suddenly upon the helpless Huguenots of Frenchtown (now Oxford). John Evans and John Johnson were shot, the children of Johnson dashed against the chimney jamb, their mother managing to escape to the river by the aid of her brother. Stealing down the stream and through the woods, she reached

Woodstock in the morning with her tale of horrors. Quickly the news flew through the Woodstock settlements. The inhabitants huddled within the garrisons, tidings were sent to the authorities of Massachusetts and Connecticut, and bands of armed men scoured the woods and guarded exposed positions. The arrival of Major Fitch with a few English soldiers and a band of friendly Indians relieved immediate apprehension, especially as he was able to exercise authority over the Wabbaquassets. He found they numbered twenty-nine fighting men, and as their headquarters were with Lieutenant John Sabin, he was able to furnish them with arms and ammunition under certain restrictions.

This beginning of tribulation was followed by a long period of insecurity and alarm. In October, 1696, by act of assembly, Woodstock was accounted a frontier and comprehended within the act to prevent the deserting the frontier, by which its inhabitants were forbidden to leave the town without special license, under very severe penalties. John Sabin was now made captain and Peter Aspinwall lieutenant of the company, the latter serving many months in command of a company of scouts or rangers, patrolling the woods of Massachusetts.

A very serious panic occurred early in 1700, arising from the very suspicious conduct of the Wabbaquassets, who went away mysteriously with their families and the treasure of the tribe, pretending fear and danger from the Mohegans. Other indicacations pointed to a general combination and insurrection of what were deemed friendly Indians in New England, and there was great apprehension that these Wabbaquassets had started for the rendezvous. A hasty message brought to the relief of Woodstock Captain Samuel Mason, with twelve English soldiers and eighteen Mohegans. He found Woodstock in great excitement. James Corbin's well-known cart was on the way from Boston, laden with ammunition, and great fear was entertained lest this military store might be captured by the enemy. After holding counsel with Mr. Dwight, Captain Sabin and leading men of the town, it was thought best to dispatch three faithful Wabbaquassets, viz., Kinsodock, Mookheag and Pesicus, as messengers to the fugitives, urging them to return and assuring them of their friendship and protection. A pass was sent with them forbidding people to take their arms from them. News came during the day that Corbin's cart was drawing nigh, and sixty armed

men went out to meet it and brought it in with great rejoicings. The friendly messengers were probably successful, as nothing farther was heard of the "resurrection and revolt of his Majesty's subjects," and Captain Mason returned peacefully to New London.

The state of alarm continued several years. Major Fitch visiting Woodstock in 1704, reported affairs there in bad condition, the people poorly provided and much exposed, the women and children gathered into garrison with but one man to guard them. Other inhabitants were out scouting or laboring in the fields under arms. The families on the westward hill he found in very difficult and disheartening circumstances, too remote to come into town, and having no adequate fortifications. He thought needful to leave fifteen men for the defense of the place, to serve alternately as scout and guard, and desired the government of Massachusetts "to provide the standing part at the several garrisons as to diet, and the marching part with supper and breakfast when they came in." The sums levied upon Woodstock for her subsistence and maintenance of this defense told heavily upon her slender treasury.

Public affairs were much neglected during these anxious years. Town meetings were almost wholly intermitted, common land left unfenced, highways to run to waste, mill house out of repair. A few families removed from town. A number of the older settlers were removed by death, viz., John Leavens, John Butcher, Deacon John Chandler, William Bartholomew, Sr., Nathaniel Johnson, Sr., and others. By 1704 tranquility was so far restored that the first school house was ordered, "21x16, six or seven feet high, on the hill southwest of John Carpenter's. . . . . to be finished by Michaelmas next," Jonathan Peake, Jacob Parker, Arthur Humphrey committee to manage the work (site on town land near the present Plaine Hill cottage). John Holmes, John Johnson, Philip Eastman, Samuel Perrin, Smith Johnson now served as selectmen; Matthew Davis, constable; John Chandler, town clerk; Thomas Lyon, Thomas Eaton, surveyors. Philip Eastman was sent as deputy to the general court. John Picker taught the first school in the new school house, and was succeeded by Thomas Lyon. Samuel Paine, Zachariah Richardson, James Hosmer, John and Peter Morse, John Payson, John Child and other new settlers had come into possession of home lots, made vacant by removal to growing settlements

in Aspinock and Mashamoquet. Deacon Benjamin Sabin and his large family of sons, Nathaniel Gary, John Carpenter, Nathaniel Sanger, John Hubbard, Peter Aspinwall, the sons of John Leavens, Samuel Paine and Samuel Perrin were among these emigrants.

The opening of these adjacent settlements added to the importance of Woodstock, the mother town, with established institutions. These "borderers" attended service at her meeting house, improved her grist mill, traded at the Corbins' shop, and participated in the festivities of training and election days. The mill privilege had now fallen into the hands of James Hosmer, whose family retained it for many years. John Holmes added a fulling mill to his accommodations, and was also chosen and desired to make coffins "as there may be occasion." William Lyon, grandson of William Lyon, Sr., accepted the office of grave digger. Public matters now received attention. Attempts were made "to bridge the great rivers between us and Mendon." Selectmen of Woodstock initiated a movement for a new road to Providence, with a bridge over the Quinebaug. The road was laid out as at present, crossing the river below the High Falls (now in Putnam), but no bridge was achieved for a number of years.

In 1710 two new school houses were constructed, one near John Child's corner, the other near Joseph Bacon's, north end of Plaine hill; Samuel Perrin, Smith Johnson, William Lyon, John Morse, building committee. Thomas Lyon taught for two months in the north school house; Stephen Sabin at the south; the town stipulating "that they require not above nine shillings a week."

In 1710 a new division of land was surveyed and laid out by Captain John Chandler; eighty acres for a twenty acre right, and other rights in proportion were allowed to each holder of original lots, each proprietor drawing in turn his allotment. It was voted, "That the lands still undivided on the east end of the town shall abide as common land forever or till the town dispose of them." Another division was also made in Roxbury's half, "all conformable" to the previous laying out of John Butcher in parallel ranges, with highways between. This division was not completed and distributed till September, 1715, at which date Roxbury's right in Woodstock passed into the hands of individual owners. During this year the western part

of the south half was laid out in four ranges, running from north to south, and distributed among the proprietors. Massachusetts' southern boundary, which had caused so much contention and trouble, was now rectified, but by the terms of the agreement she was allowed to retain jurisdiction over the towns she had settled. Woodstock, although within Connecticut's patent lines, was thus left appended to the Bay colony.

The division and transfer of land in the north part of Woodstock facilitated settlement. Sons of Roxbury owners gladly availed themselves of this opportunity to found homes in this popular and growing town. Among the first of these north-half settlers were the sons of Benjamin Child, whose brother John had been for some time a resident in the eastward vale, or "the town," as it was then called. His oldest son, Ephraim, married Priscilla Harris in 1710, and with his young wife soon removed to one of the ample lots in the vicinity of Muddy brook, held by his father. He was soon followed by several gay young bachelors, viz., his brother Benjamin, John May, Ichabod Holmes and Joseph Lyon, who also took up allotments and went busily to work, breaking up land, getting out stumps, fencing, planting and building rude houses, making ready for the prospective brides. The great Cedar Swamp, "left distinct and excepted" for the public use, furnished suitable material for building, though the watch and care needful to prevent pillage was an additional burden to the few inhabitants. The wild land in the west part of the town also furnished shelter for many wolves and other troublesome neighbors. A journal fortunately kept by John May gives a pleasant picture of these stalwart pioneers, now toiling alone for days over some refractory field, and then all joining together in a cheerful "bee" at the final log hauling, carting and planting, helping each other with "team," implements and friendly service. On stormy days they "sort their nails" and potter about house, or visit the several families of kindred in the south half, and recreate with these older residents at public fasts, trainings and town meetings.

The old "Child House" with its Centennial Elm, and the "old May House," (now Lippitt's) stand upon or near the sites of the first rude houses built by Ephraim Child and John May. The homestead of Benjamin Child was on the brook in the heart of the present East Woodstock village. "Old Mr. Maturin Allard," Thomas Gould, tanner, and Deacon Joseph Lyon, were also

among the early inhabitants of the north half. Their first recognition in town meeting was in 1715, when they had liberty to mend their own highways. Maturin Allard was the first man chosen to hold town office. Wolf hunting was apparently greatly stimulated by settlement in this previously waste country, as the town was called to pay many wolf bounties, at twenty shillings a head. Thomas Lyon, Jr., and Jonathan Payson were very active in this service. John May showed much versatility, helping build chimneys and houses, having charge of the Cedar Swamp, and assisting Lieutenant Samuel Morris in placing the first bridge over the Quinebaug river.

These northern settlers attended divine worship in the town meeting house and bore their share of minister's rate and other town expenses. The question of building a new meeting house excited much discussion and wrangling. In 1717, an experienced committee reported "that it would be most profitable as well as most accommodable to build a new house." The town accepted this opinion with thanks, but was slow in deciding upon the site. A letter was written to the residents of the north half relating to moving the meeting house more northerly, but no return was made to it. After long delay and many reversals of decision, Mr. Dwight was sent for "to pray with the town." All previous action was then annulled and the site referred to three men from out of town. Samuel Paine, Smith Johnson and Benjamin Griggs from South Woodstock, and William Lyon, James Corbin and Jonathan Payson from Plaine hill, were appointed, "to remonstrate to the committee from abroad the circumstances of the town, and the arguments they have to offer as to which place they think best, and to write to such committee, provide for and pay them."

These wise men decided "in favor of burying-place spot," the site now occupied by the Congregational church edifice on Woodstock hill. William Lyon, Eliphalet Carpenter and John Chandler, Jr., served as building committee. The house was raised with due solemnities and rejoicing in April, 1720, and the work of building carried on with unwonted celerity. Much attention was given to style and ornament. A body of seats occupied the floor. A pew for the minister was built east of the pulpit. Sixteen other worthies were allowed the privilege of building wall-pews for themselves, the minister's serving for a standard. The leading citizen of the town, Captain John Chandler,

was allowed to build next to the pulpit stairs. Following him in order were Samuel Morris, John Chandler, Jr., Samuel Perrin, Jabez Corbin, John Marcy, Deacon Edward Morris, Deacon John Johnson, James Corbin, Eliphalet Carpenter, Jonathan Payson, Joseph Bartholomew, Edmond Chamberlain, Joseph Lyon, Zachariah Richardson and John Morse.

The cost of this house proved so great a burden to the town that an effort was made to procure a tax upon the land owned by Roxbury non-residents, which called forth a most indignant remonstrance from the citizens of the mother town, and a prompt rejection by the general court. The new house was occupied before completion, the materials of the previous house being used in its construction. Its formal "seating" was not accomplished till 1725, when it was referred to Colonel Chandler and the two deacons, "rules to be observed—age, charge, usefulness." Suitable and desirable young people were allowed to build pews in the hind part of the galleries.

In the following year Woodstock parted with its first minister. The pleasant relations of early years had been succeeded by prolonged uneasiness and wrangling. With many good points, Mr. Dwight was erratic and headstrong. His small salary was poorly paid and in attempting to eke it out by land jobbing and "great strokes of husbandry," he incurred much censure. Difficulties at length reached such a point that a ministerial council was convened, which opined that while there were articles in Mr. Dwight's conduct which were exceptionable and justly grievious to the people, there was nothing that might not be accommodated by suitable methods in a Christian spirit. Mr. Dwight in a long, peculiar and pathetic "declaration" the following Sabbath, left his "staying or going off" for his people to determine, expressing, however, his choice "to finish life and labors together in this place." A town meeting was at once called to consider the question—"Whether it be the opinion of the town that it will be for the glory of God, the interest of religion, and the peace and comfort of the town, that the labors of Mr. Dwight should be continued further among us." To the astonishment of all, and more especially of the pastor, the town voted in the negative, "sixty against one, and one was neutral." Surprised and disheartened by unexpected opposition and alienation, Mr. Dwight at once resigned his ministerial office in Woodstock, the town voting his "total, immediate dismission."

The lack of formal church co-operation and ministerial concurrence in this dismission prolonged the controversy for a number of years.

The succeeding pastorate of Reverend Amos Throop, ordained May 24th, 1727, was as harmonious as that of Mr. Dwight had been stormy. Various secular matters were now under consideration. As early as 1720 Colonel John Chandler had presented a petition to the general court for the erection of a new county in the south of Massachusetts, to be called Worcester. A bill was presented, ordered to be considered, and then indefinitely deferred. Renewed Indian hostilities gave much annoyance. Colonel John Chandler and his son William were much occupied in military affairs, the latter having charge of a frontier guard for many months. Woodstock households were again gathered into garrisons, and exposed to perils and anxieties. A rumored invasion of Worcester, in 1724, called out a most urgent appeal from that feeble settlement to Colonel Chandler, "having an expectation that he would be a father to it."

In 1724 a final division of the remaining land in the south half was ordered. Some fifty odd pieces scattered about the tract were surveyed and numbered. The commons at Plaine hill and South Woodstock and some other pieces were reserved for public uses; the remaining forty-five pieces of land, amounting to 1,681 acres, were divided among the representatives of the original proprietors. A number of rights were bought up by John Chandler, Jr., which were laid out to him in one strip of two hundred acres. Of the first settlers none were living but John Chandler, Joseph Bugbee and Jonathan Peake. Henry Bowen, John Marcy and Benjamin Griggs had recently deceased. The shares were distributed to thirty-six proprietors. The selectmen at this date were John Chandler, Smith Johnson, Edmond Chamberlain, Jonathan Payson and Samuel Paine; assessors, Samuel Perrin, Payson and Chamberlain; constables, Ephraim Child and John Holmes; highway surveyors, Samuel Lilly, Ebenezer Morris, David Holmes and Maturin Allard; tithing-men, Lieutenant Jabez Corbin and Daniel Abbot; fence viewers, John Child and Edward Morris, Jr.; hog-reeves, Zachariah Richardson, Joseph Wright, Joseph Lyon, Isaac Johnson and Henry Bowen; leather sealer, Stephen Fay. Eliphalet Carpenter and Jonathan Payson served as licensed inn-keepers; John Chandler as retailer.

In 1731 the new county movement carried the day, and Woodstock, with many northward towns, was incorporated into Worcester county. This distant frontier town furnished the leading officers. Already colonel of the regiment, John Chandler, Sr., was now made judge of probate and chief justice of the court of common pleas. John Chandler, Jr., was appointed clerk of the court, and by especial request of the inhabitants removed his residence to Worcester. The first court in the new county was held in Judge Chandler's Woodstock mansion, wherein much legal and public business was transacted. A new road was now laid out from Worcester to Woodstock line, to accommodate business and travel. Woodstock ranked among the foremost towns of the county, its tax list only surpassed by some of the older townships. A well-patronized select school gave evidence of prosperity and progress. Some seventy pupils were reported by its master, Thaddeus Mason, including pupils from the best families in Pomfret and Killingly. An attempt was made to establish a permanent Grammar or high school—the town voting to build a school house for the accommodation of grown children, not hindering subordinate schools. This vote called out one of Woodstock's characteristic controversies. Thirty out of sixty-nine voters dissented from this vote. A strong memorial was immediately prepared, signed by Colonel Chandler, Eliphalet Carpenter, John Holmes, Henry Bowen, and other prominent men, showing that this matter had been laid over to this June 8th, 1730, "to be farther considered on," but instead was not only considered "but transacted upon in a way very grievous to a great number of the inhabitants," and for "preventing any contests, heats or disputes," desired that another town meeting might be called. Though held in the busiest time of the year over a hundred voters were present at this meeting. The former vote was annulled, the new school house for "grown children" countermanded, and directions given for repairing the old Plaine hill school house.

In 1731 liberty was given to build a school house in the north half. The appointed committee affixed the site, east side the highway leading from the house of Ephraim Child to Maturin Allard's, but this site was considered too far eastward. Captain Payson, Moses Barrett, Joseph Chaffee, Jonathan Bugbee and Nathaniel Sanger were appointed a committee to view the site; John May, Benjamin Child and Maturin Allard, to take care of

building said house, but still the work did not go forward. Several other families of Child had now settled in this section, and many children were growing up, and while waiting to agree upon a building site schools were maintained in private houses. John May and Jonathan Morse taught in the winter; school ma'ams were employed in the several sections in the summer.

The town at this date was much exercised by a controversy with its most prominent citizen, Judge Chandler. Deacon William Lyon superseded him as moderator of town meeting; Isaac Tiffany as town clerk; David Holmes as town treasurer. Judge Chandler refused to deliver up the town records, "because proprietors' concerns are mixt with ye town's," and declined "to transcribe what belongs to proprietors from the town books" without some adequate compensation. The town, on her part, refused to be at the charge "of transcribing proprietors' concerns from town affairs," and ordered the selectmen "to get and procure town books from Hon. John Chandler, as speedily as they can by the most prudential ways and means as they shall judge best."

Judge Chandler also disagreed with the town in relation to the settlement of a minister in place of Reverend Amos Throop, deceased. A call was extended to Mr. John Hovey to become their pastor. A tendency to override technicalities, and manage affairs in a somewhat independent fashion, was severely censured by the honorable judge, who "apprehended the whole proceedings both in church and town were the product of arbitrary or mobbish principles, and the foundation being laid upon the sand, the superstructure cannot long continue." The town responded by appointing as agents Deacon William Lyon, Captain Payson and Lieutenant Morris, "To demand, sue for and recover the town book of records." Mr. Hovey declining this irregular call, the town concurred with the church in sending to New Haven "to invite Mr. Abel Stiles to preach with them by way of probation." A large majority expressing their satisfaction with the ministerial performances and qualifications of the candidate, he was ordained pastor of church and town, July 27th, 1737. Able and accomplished, the only drawback in this relation was Mr. Stiles' preference for Connecticut's form of church government. He did not, however, explicitly refuse to sign the church covenant, but presented a written statement of his own views and principles, which was considered satisfactory. This

harmonious settlement contributed to further pacification. Colonel Chandler was again chosen moderator of town meetings. Twenty-five pounds was allowed him for twenty-six years' service as town clerk, and other demands conceded.

School divisions were confirmed in 1738. Captain John May, Deacon William Lyon, Jedidiah Frizzell, James Chaffee and Benjamin Bugbee served as committee in setting the bounds of schools in the several parts of the town, "so that one part may not send their children to any other part, and every part enjoy its own school without being interrupted by any other part." The "parts" thus assigned were the central school at Plaine hill, the southeast quarter, the northeast quarter, and the whole west side of the town. A fifth section was soon after set off at Wabbaquasset, in the south of the town.

The settlement of the western part of Woodstock had now made considerable progress. Its south half had been laid out to original proprietors, and was occupied mainly by their sons. Joshua, third son of Judge Chandler, was one of the first to take possession of his father's out-division, "Lot 23, third range," in the heart of the future village of West Woodstock. He was soon followed by other adventurous youths, viz., Thomas and John Child, John and Joseph Marcy, Nathaniel Johnson, John Perrin, Ebenezer Lyon, Benjamin Corbin, Samuel and Jesse Bugbee, Nathaniel Aspinwall, Ebenezer and Abraham Paine, children of first planters, eager to establish themselves in this pleasant and fertile section. No part of the town was settled under more favorable circumstances—a body of well trained young men, with friends at hand to help and encourage them. In 1731 a two months' school was allowed by the town. In 1733 it was voted "That the inhabitants dwelling on the west side of a due north and south line from the top of Fort hill to the dividend lines on the north and south bounds of the town have liberty to meet together and agree where a school house may be built." Improving this privilege, the western residents met together and voted "That the best place for a school house is north of Clay-pit Brook, between Joshua Chandler's and John Paine's lots."

This house being constructed, other needs were manifested. In 1736 it was found that thirty-five families had gathered within the limits of the west school who were exposed to great hardships and difficulties, especially in cold and difficult times of

the year in travelling to and from public worship in the distant Plaine Hill meeting house. Having borne cheerfully their part of public charges, these westward residents now asked the town to help them pay the expense of hiring a minister through the winter. The town granted liberty to have preaching at their own cost, but refused to afford any help toward its support. After five years' efforts and trials, the western inhabitants again most earnestly besought their friends and neighbors to take their remote and difficult circumstances into their compassionate consideration, and in order to settle the worship of God suitably among them, allow the western half to be erected into a separate town. Aghast at this presumption, the town positively refused to grant its countenance and consent to the western inhabitants. Again, in the spring of 1742, the petitioners pressed their suit, and succeeded by a majority of two in gaining permission to address the general court.

July 2d Benjamin Marcy and thirty-five others forcibly represented "their inconvenience by reason of remoteness from public worship," and gained encouragement to hope that a precinct might be allowed them. Another appeal was made to their obdurate fellow townsmen, not willing "to drive things to extremities," "the settlement of public worship the principal thing we aim at," but again were scornfully repulsed. With equal firmness the western inhabitants again preferred their request to the general conrt, showing their condition, the distance which each petitioner and his family were obliged to travel to the crowded meeting house on Plaine hill, and begging humbly to be set off into a distinct and separate precinct. A very strong and forcible *response* from the old inhabitants of the town, headed by Judge Chandler, could not in this instance stay the march of progress. A committee appointed to repair to Woodstock and view the situation reported in favor of the petitioners. September 15th, 1743, the report of the committee was accepted, and the "west half part of Woodstock erected into a separate and distinct township, and vested with all the rights and privileges that precincts by law enjoy."

The first parish meeting was held in the one school house, September 27th. John Marcy served as moderator; Isaac Johnson, clerk; Joseph Chaffee, Joseph Marcy and Ebenezer Lyon were chosen society committee; Joseph Chaffee, Moses Lyon and Isaac Johnson, assessors; John Marcy, treasurer. Ebenezer

Smith, John Child and Nathaniel Johnson served as committee, with Captain John May, Jabez Lyon and Daniel Paine of the old society, in affixing the bound between the precincts by a north and south line through the center of the town. The new society assumed the name of New Roxbury, and at once devoted its energies to the establishment of public worship. A tax of two pence a year on all unimproved land, to be applied toward building a meeting house and settling a minister, was allowed by the general assembly. After discussion and delay, the "decisive spot for meeting house" was fixed upon by a committee from abroad, viz., Robert Knowlton, Joseph Leavens and Mr. Walbridge; Isaac Johnson, Joseph Chaffee, Ebenezer Paine, Thomas Child, Jonathan Bugbee, Ebenezer Corbin waiting upon them. After four days' deliberation "a dry knoll east of Bungee Hill" was selected, Mr. Joshua Chandler giving an acre of land for building site. Equal deliberation was manifested in choosing a minister. The successful candidate was Mr. Stephen Williams of Longmeadow, Mass., the worthy son of honored ministerial ancestry. The meeting house was raised in 1746, and made ready for service the following year. A day of fasting preparatory to that of ordination was held in June, 1747, at which time Woodstock's second church was organized, and on June 24th the ordination was effected. Fifty acres of good land and a suitable dwelling house were provided for the young minister, and thus, after ten years' effort, religious worship was prosperously established.

The first meeting of the east half as a distinct parish was held March 6th, 1744. John Holmes was chosen moderator; Thomas Chandler, clerk and treasurer; Jabez Lyon, John Frizzell, Thomas Chandler, assessors; Richard Child, Benjamin Bugbee, collectors; Captain Jonathan Payson, Captain Joseph Wright, Captain Samuel Chandler, committee to call precinct meetings and take care of the prudentials, viz., to sweep the meeting house, mend the glass, etc., at the charge of the precinct. All matters relative to ecclesiastic and school affairs were now referred to the two societies. Five schools were maintained by the first society, viz., Center, North, South, West and Wabbaquasset. New school houses were built "in the southeast part in the old spot," and at Wabbaquasset, sixteen feet square, beside chimney way. A more spacious and elaborate house was provided for the center at Plaine hill. The north district, after ten years' consid-

eration "agreed upon the spot where the highways intersect, east of Capt. Child's house," near the mill site on Muddy brook.

New families were now appearing, especially in the north part of the town. The old settlers had passed away. Deacon William Lyon died in 1742; Judge John Chandler, the most prominent citizen of Worcester county, died in 1743; the last survivor of the original proprietors was Thomas Bacon, who died in 1758, aged 96 years. With the passing away of the pioneer generation and the introduction of new elements, the tie between the inhabitants of Woodstock and the old homes at Roxbury and Boston was greatly weakened. Massachusetts was at this date involved in many difficulties. Her debts were heavy; her currency demoralized. Connecticut was far more prosperous and in greater favor with the British government. Yet the movement for a transfer of allegiance was apparently sudden. Mr. Stiles indeed took care to remind his people of the burthens laid upon them as part of "a province groaning under sore calamities," yet the people in general submitted uncomplainingly without thought of secession or rebellion. The rumor that other "Indented towns" were preparing to assert their claim to the charter privileges of Connecticut was the incentive to action. There was apparently no very strong feeling in the matter, no sense of ill-usage or hostility to the Massachusetts government, but the change was desirable on the ground of absolute right and local convenience. The question was brought before the town March 31st, 1747, "'If a person should be chosen to join those chosen by Suffield, Enfield and Somers in trying to get off to Connecticut.' A large majority voted in the affirmative and chose Colonel William Chandler to lay the affair before the General Assembly of Connecticut. Fourteen persons dissented 'as not likely to prove successful and costing more expense.'"

The petitioners from the four "Indented towns" asked to be received under the jurisdiction of Connecticut, upon the ground that the territory of their towns was included in the original grant to that government, and that the boundary settlement of 1713, under which they were allowed to remain in Massachusetts, had never received the royal sanction, and they did not believe that *commissioners* could transfer or alter the jurisdiction of lands given by royal charter, and that the doing of the same was an infringement on the rights of the subject. The assem-

bly appointed a committee of honorable gentlemen to confer with gentlemen from Massachusetts, who failing in this effort, were farther empowered to consider the affair, and reported in favor of the memorialists. After two years' delay and reiterated memorials, the Connecticut assembly decided that the boundary agreement of 1713 was made through mistake, that Connecticut had received no equivalent for the jurisdiction of these towns, and as the agreement had never received royal confirmation, so it never ought to receive it, and must be looked upon as null and void, and solemnly declared, "that the inhabitants south of the line fixed by Massachusetts were within and had right to the privileges of Connecticut Government."

This decision was received with delight by a large majority of the inhabitants of Woodstock, whose interest in the matter had been greatly stimulated by two years' agitation. A warning from a Connecticut justice soon summoned them "to the choice of proper town officers, of which they were destitute." This "notable meeting" was held in the first meeting house, Friday, 10 A. M., July 28th, 1749 (O. S.). Justice Joseph Leavens, of Killingly, a native of Woodstock, presided. Before entering upon the business of the day, a formal protest was entered by Samuel Chandler, John, Jonathan, Nathan and Asa Payson, John Frizzell, Joseph Wright, Zebulon Dodge and Joseph Griggs, declaring that the meeting was wholly unlawful and had a tendency to stir up the greatest confusion and disorder, if not rebellion. Deciding to take no further notice of this protest, John May was chosen moderator; Henry Bowen, town clerk and first selectman; Isaac Johnson, second selectman; Jabez Lyon, third; Abraham Perrin, fourth; John May, fifth; Andrew Durkee and Ebenezer Paine, constables; Benjamin Bugbee and Samuel Child, grand jurors; all sworn into office by Justice Leavens. William and Daniel Lyon, John Morse, Ephraim and Benjamin Child, Henry Bowen, Thomas Chandler, Daniel Paine and Nathaniel Johnson were then approved to take the freeman's oath agreeably to the laws of Connecticut. At the following town meeting seventy-four additional residents were admitted freemen, and Thomas Chandler and Henry Bowen chosen representatives to the general assembly. Transference of allegiance had thus been practically effected, and Woodstock enrolled among Connecticut townships.

Massachusetts, meanwhile, wholly refused to accept the situation. Spirited remonstrances were laid before the Connecticut assembly; warrants and writs were served upon her revolted subjects; commissioners failed even to agree upon terms of negotiation. Both governments, after some years of bickering and wrangling, attempted to lay their claims before the crown, but owing to many hindrances and public disturbances did not succeed in gaining a hearing. After the close of the French and Indian war another attempt was made to gain a decision from supreme authority in Great Britain, but the revolutionary troubles again prevented its consideration, and the revolted towns were left to Connecticut dominion, according to the original grant of territory. The aggrieved memorialists of Woodstock continued to protest against this transfer, but were forced in time to submit to the will of the majority. In many respects the change was greatly to its advantage. The population of the town in 1753 was 1,336 whites, 30 blacks; value of estates £16,500.

Revolt from Massachusetts was soon followed by a protracted ecclesiastic conflict, resulting likewise in secession and separation. Both controversies sprung from the same germ—the inherent antagonism between the two colonies. Those citizens who favored Massachusetts government and ideas adhered faithfully to the Cambridge platform and principles, upon which the first church in Woodstock was founded, while the especial friends of Mr. Stiles, advocates for the new departure, had imbibed some portion of his regard for the Saybrook platform and religious establishment of Connecticut. Mr. Stiles' request to attend the meetings of the Windham County Association of ministers, "purely for his own information and satisfaction," aroused suspicion and uneasiness in the first years of his ministry. These difficulties had so increased that in 1752 a council was held, in which nine specific points of grievance were brought forward, discussed and carefully adjusted. Yet notwithstanding this amicable settlement, old fires were rekindled by the "amazing conduct" of Mr. Stiles in introducing a covenant, embodying as he claimed the substance of the Cambridge platform, and without proper warning or discussion, declaring its adoption upon the subscription of himself and a small number of the brethren. A large number of church members protested earnestly against this imposition, and positively refused to submit to it. Attempts

to compound the difference were wholly fruitless, and after a few months of wrangling the opposition withdrew from Mr. Stiles' preaching, and held meetings by themselves. In 1756 the aggrieved party—twenty-three brethren and twenty-one sisters—by the advice of an ecclesiastic council, formally "re-assumed in church state on the ancient basis of the church, whereof we stand members," and were declared by the council "a church in regular form, according to the usual method."

This procedure at once raised the question which of the two churches had the right to the tithes and property vested in the First society, and both parties carried their woes to the general assembly. Mr. Stiles asked for a council to hear and determine the differences; his opponents prayed for "a distinct, separate society." A council was granted but could not agree upon terms of statement. Every day the breach widened. The old church party reiterated to the assembly "the inconsistency of the thing in its own nature," and "the violence that must be done to our consciences, in that we should be compelled to uniformity with a minister and his adherents, who have so far departed from the ancient order, and be made to suffer for abiding in conformity with the sister churches throughout the province in which we were first embodied," while Mr. Stiles adroitly insinuated charges of Separatism, irregularity and disaffection to the *civil constitution* of Connecticut. The condition of religious affairs at that date, the violence and disorders caused by the Separate movement, gave great weight to these insinuations, and undoubtedly warped the judgment of councillors and legislators. The ministry of state and county sympathized mainly with Mr. Stiles, and the small body representing the original church covenant was sorely beset and hindered, and even refused the privilege of communion with the church in the West parish. A number of prominent ministers appointed by the general assembly in 1757, found the difficulties very great—"all peace, unity and good agreement wholly destroyed and gone from among the people of the society and members of the church," but found no practicable way of accommodation.

The majority for a time apparently favored the Stiles party, which was thus enabled to lay taxes upon the whole society, but after some years the balance of power had shifted, the question assumed a more definite sectional character, descendants of first settlers in the south half insisting upon the old church covenant,

the more varied population of the north adhering to Mr. Stiles and Connecticut church government. Conflicting votes were now passed at successive society meetings, whereby affairs were thrown into the greatest confusion. Rival committees refused to warn meetings in behalf of their opponents. The assembly, wearied out with their contentions, turned a deaf ear to all petitions. The old church party, in 1758, secured a vote to assess all estates in the society for support of their own minister, and proceeded to collect it. Windham courts declared the assessment unlawful, but had not power to grant relief.

Emboldened by success, the anti-Stiles party proceeded to lay hands on the meeting house. Richard Flynn was chosen key-keeper; Samuel Chandler and Colonel John Payson deputized to get possession of the key. Failing in this, Zebulon Dodge was directed to take off the lock and put on another, and deliver the new key to Mr. Flynn. Victory was finally achieved by a society vote: "I. That the society meet in the meeting house in said society on Lord's day for public worship for the future. II. That there be a committee chosen to supply the pulpit till farther orders, in the room of Mr. Stiles. III. That Mr. Samuel Chandler be a committee to supply the pulpit with some suitable person to preach, and that the clerk serve Mr. Stiles with a copy of the transactions of this society, that he may know the minds of the society, and so not presume to go into the desk on Lord's day to disturb the society in the public worship as he has heretofore done."

In spite of this summary ejection Mr. Stiles *did* presume to enter the desk already occupied by the opposition minister, and was only ousted by a hand-to-hand contest. This battle cleared the air, and virtually ended the controversy. The northern belligerents withdrew with their discomfitted minister. A committee appointed by general assembly arranged an amicable settlement. The society division besought so many years was at length effected—the old south retaining the meeting house, the young north carrying off the minister. Church property was divided between the two societies. Isaac Johnson, Parker and John Morse, John May, Nathaniel and Elisha Child signed the agreement July 20th, 1760. Church records were left in the hands of Mr. Stiles, society records with the clerk of the First or South society. The question as to which body could claim the title of "First church of Woodstock" was ignored as too delicate for contemporary discussion.

In spite of these dissensions the town was gaining rapidly. Many new settlers purchased farms, especially in the north part of the town. Various business enterprises were set in motion; mill privileges and iron ore were utilized, trade and production stimulated. New men came to the front. At the town meeting December 1st, 1760, Isaac Johnson served as moderator. Thomas Chandler was chosen town clerk and treasurer; Isaac Johnson, Thomas Chandler, Nathaniel Johnson, Ebenezer Smith, Jr., Nathaniel Child, selectmen; Moses Chandler, constable and collector of colony tax; Moses Child, collector of excise; Samuel McClellan, George Hedge, Elijah Lyon, Abner Harris, John Chamberlain, Amos Paine, Matthew Hammond, Jonathan and Henry Child, Ebenezer Child, Jr., Ebenezer Corbin, Jonathan Morris, Hezekiah Smith, Captain Joseph Hayward, Joshua Chandler, surveyors of highways; Silas Bowen, Lieutenant Hezekiah Smith, grand jurymen; Silas Bowen, Moses Child, Hezekiah Smith, Moses Chandler, Upham May, Ebenezer Child, Jr., Samuel Child, Jr., listers; Nathaniel Child, Abijah Child, Samuel Bowen, collectors of rates; George Hedge, Josiah Hammond, Stephen Marcy, Asa Morris, Caleb May, Elisha Child, tithing men; Benjamin Bugbee, William Chapman, fence viewers; Darius Ainsworth, Zebulon Marcy, Joseph Manning, Ezra May, Isaac Bowen, Nathan Child, haywards; Moses Child, receiver of stores; Jedidiah Morse, packer; Joseph Peake, gauger; Richard Flynn, Daniel Bugbee, branders. Ebenezer Smith was chosen town clerk in place of Thomas Chandler, removed to Vermont. Lieutenant Hezekiah Smith and other officers were excused to serve in the army.

Needful improvements were gradually carried out. Highway districts were set out in 1773—five in the First society, in charge of Thomas Baker, Jonathan Allen, Jonathan Lyon, Jed. Bugbee, Matthew Bowen; four in New Roxbury, directed by Daniel Paine, Benjamin Howard, John Perrin, Samuel Narramore; four in the North society, under Caleb May, Ephraim Carpenter, Eliakim May, Stephen Tucker. New roads were laid out superseding the old range ways. A committee appointed in 1771 to examine the financial condition of the town, reported that the town's money for a number of years had been prudently handled. In public affairs Woodstock manifested much interest, taking a prominent part in political discussion and demonstration. A strong radical element was very forcibly called

into exercise throughout the whole revolutionary struggle, leading her citizens to go far beyond their proportion in supplies of men and munitions of war. With equal spirit she resisted all Massachusetts' attempts to coerce her into subjection, and gallantly entered the field in the contest for the shire-ship of Windham county. The one-sided position of Windham town was a grievance to the north part of the county. The proposed change to Pomfret was still unsatisfactory. Woodstock met the dilemma by proposing that Connecticut should remove her northern bound some four and a half miles farther north, "agreeable to the manifest intent of the Province charter," and "then take a just view of the situation of Woodstock and its conveniency for a shire town;" a proposition which the Lower House did not deign even to consider.

In the discussion concerning the adoption of the federal constitution, Woodstock showed her wonted independence, indulging in large and warm debate until the dusk of the evening and adjourning after much opposition. At the second meeting, which was very fully attended, Mr. Stephen Paine and Deacon Timothy Perrin were chosen delegates, and although it was alleged that the vote was illegal, sundry persons presuming to vote who were not legal voters, they attended the meeting in Hartford, January 3d, 1788, and voted against the adoption of the constitution. Woodstock's native radicalism and the prevalence of what were called "sectaries," developed a strong opposition to federalism. The anti-federal or republican party found many supporters in town, and Baptist and Methodist radicals were occasionally sent as representatives.

Deacon Jedidiah Morse, long remembered as one of the strong men of Woodstock, now served as town clerk and treasurer. Captains Nehemiah Lyon, Amos Paine and Ephraim Manning, Captains Daniel and William Lyon, Thomas May, Noah Mason, Shubael Child, Darius Ainsworth, Benjamin Haywood, Ebenezer Smith, Nehemiah Clarke, Silas May, Ebenezer Coburn, appear among town officers. Hon. Charles Church Chandler, grandson of Judge John Chandler and his successor in the old Chandler homestead at South Woodstock, the first lawyer in Woodstock and a man of wide influence, died suddenly in 1787.

Samuel McClellan, general of Connecticut's Fifth Brigade, was now one of the most prominent men in Windham county.

His valuable services during the war of the revolution were everywhere recognized. Woodstock's native military spirit was greatly stimulated by his presence and example, and her two commons were noted for a brilliant succession of military training. These gala days were exceedingly popular, bringing together a great concourse of people, and were marked by the customary hilarity and carousings. General McClellan and his revolutionary war horse were especial features of these occasions. John, son of General McClellan, was early promoted to the rank of brigade major. After studying law with Hon. Charles H. Chandler, he entered upon practice at Woodstock hill, and was very active in establishing Woodstock Academy and other public enterprises.

Turnpike schemes awakened much interest in Woodstock. The road from Boston to Hartford was laid out through Thompson to her great disappointment, but she secured the Norwich and Worcester turnpike, with a branch diverging to Sturbridge, and also a direct road from General McClellan's corner to Providence. This latter road was afterward continued to Somers. Middlesex Gore on the north, left outside of town bounds by the reconstruction of the state boundary, was claimed by Woodstock in 1793, but she did not succeed in retaining possession. In 1797 an attempt was made by a number of western residents—divested, as they claimed, "in great measure of the privilege of free and legal inhabitants of the town of Woodstock, and a participation in the election of town officers, owing to their remote distance," to obtain independent town privileges. Some encouragement was given by the other societies, but a majority of voters "would not consent to new town." Relief was obtained in time by holding town meetings alternately in the three societies.

At the town meeting in 1807, John McClellan, Esq., served as moderator. Jedidiah Morse still retained the position of town clerk and treasurer; selectmen, John McClellan, Captains Luther Baldwin, William May and Jedidiah Kimball, and Deacon Stephen Johnson; constables, David Frizzell, Parker Morse, Amasa Lyon; grand jurors, Henry Welles, Thomas Corbin, Captain Asa Child, Darius Barlow; listers, David Frizzell, William Lyon, Darius Barlow, Doctor Haviland Morris, Captains Carpenter Bradford, Aaron Child and Judah Lyon; pound keepers, William Flynn, Roswell Ledoyt, Chester May; tavern keepers, Wil-

liam Bowen, Jonathan Day, Daniel Lyon, Charles W. Noyes, Chester May, John Child, Sanford Holmes, Perley Lyon, Earl Clapp and Lemuel Perry; Colonel David Holmes, Captain William May, Jedidiah Kimball, committee to wait upon turnpike commissioners.

The multiplication of taverns testified to the increase in travel and teaming. It was a day of emigration, when all the main roads were thronged with wagons and teams, transporting families westward. Manufacturing was also coming in vogue, stimulating business intercourse. As yet Woodstock farms sufficed mainly for the maintenance of its population, with such business as was demanded by the daily needs of its inhabitants. The town was thrifty and healthy, standing high among the towns of the county, exceeding in 1810 all others in population. Again in 1820, it stood at the head with 3,017 inhabitants, the first town in the county to enter the thirties.

During the war of 1812 she had shown her usual spirit, though a majority of her citizens opposed the course of the president, and manifested their disapproval in denunciatory resolutions. The summons to the relief of New London in June, 1813, awakened much enthusiasm. James Lyon was sent out to warn the militia, and returning from his mission before sunrise, found two companies already mustered on the common, under charge of Adjutant Flynn, ready to march to the scene of action. Bowen's tavern, under the poplars at Woodstock hill, was a place of much resort during this busy period, and was once the scene of a remarkable conjunction between two government cannon, ordered from different establishments by the secretaries of war and navy, which met before the tavern door at the same moment,

In the succeeding battles for a new state constitution and county seat Woodstock bore her part bravely, enrolling her vote against the constitution, and persistently refusing to pay any share of the expense of the removal of the courts to Brooklyn. This was the more unreasonable in view of the radical tendencies of the town, and its uncommon addiction to excessive litigation. A number of protracted and troublesome lawsuits were carried on during this period, and the three lawyers, Esquires McClellan, Ebenezer Stoddard and John F. Williams, found abundant practice. The pugnacity of Woodstock's citizens made politics lively. The anti-Masonic controversy raged with much fierceness, breaking down old party lines and inciting new combinations.

Hon. Ebenezer Stoddard, who had served as representative in congress from 1821 to 1825, was elected lieutenant-governor of Connecticut in 1835. Temperance and slavery agitation called out much interest, and were soon introduced into politics. A large number of taverns had been maintained during the days of heavy teaming and hard drinking. In 1828 the licensed tavern keepers were George Bowen, William K. Greene, Rhodes Arnold, Aaron Corbin, Judah Lyon, Chauncey Kibbe, Thomas L. Truman, Hezekiah Bugbee. With the progress of temperance reformation the number gradually diminished. In 1833 Chauncey Kibbe, William Healy, George Bowen, Amasa Carpenter and Rhodes Arnold were nominated. Two years later and only Rhodes Arnold and James Lamson were allowed the privilege. Five persons were refused nomination, and the petition of George Bowen, Danforth Child and Rhodes Arnold for license to retail wine and spirituous liquors was rejected. In 1836 Lyman and William Hiscox, George Bowen, Pelatiah and Zenas D. Wight and Danforth Child were approbated to be retailers of wines and distilled spirituous liquors at the several stores.

After the Washingtonian temperance movement of 1840 a special town meeting was called, January 6th, "to see if the town will grant liberty as the statute law directs to any person or persons to sell wine or spirituous liquors in the town the year ensuing." A decided refusal was given. Even the discreet application of Mr. George Bowen to sell such articles "for medicinal purposes only and no other" was decided in the negative. And as tavern keeping was quite superfluous apart from liquor selling, the application of Mr. Amasa Carpenter to keep a house of public entertainment met the same fate. For fifty years no liquor selling has been licensed by the town of Woodstock, save for medicinal and chemical purposes. Trainings and taverns were also simultaneously abandoned, or transformed into a mere shadow of former greatness.

The movement for the abolition of slavery aroused immediate interest in Woodstock. Its citizens aided in the formation of the early "Liberty Party." In 1843 Doctor Samuel Bowen of Thompson, received 116 Woodstock votes as the congressional candidate of the abolitionists. So powerful was the party that for three years it obstructed the choice of town representatives. In 1847 a compromise was effected between the whigs and liberty party men, and Leonard M. Deane and Stephen Hopkins elected.

The latter is starred on the roll of representatives as the first "Abolitionist" in the state legislature. Woodstock's abolition vote was much larger than that of any other town. So strong was this element that in 1856, when the republican party came into prominence, 478 votes were cast for "Fremont and Freedom."

In population Woodstock has suffered gradual loss, numbering some hundreds less than in 1820. Constant emigration and the lack of manufacturing interests have caused this shrinkage, yet there are indications that the lowest point has been reached and renewed immigration set in. Many respected citizens have carried on the affairs of the town these seventy years. In 1830, October 4th, John Paine, Esq., served as moderator; John Fox was chosen treasurer and town clerk; Oliver Morse, William Lyon, 2d, Laban Underwood, Simon Barrett, Chauncey Kibbe, selectmen; Perley Lyon, Rhodes Arnold, Rodney Martin, assessors; John Chandler, 2d, Christopher Arnold, Otis Perry, board of relief; Silas H. Cutler, John Child, Oliver Saunders, constables and collectors of taxes; Charles Child, Jr., Elisha C. Walker, Spaulding Barstow, Simon Barrett, Elisha Paine, Alexander Dorrance, grand jurors; P. Skinner, Cyrus Davenport, Cyprian Chandler, John W. Wells, Amos Paine, Jr., Benajah Bugbee, 2d, Alexander Dorrance, Charles Skinner, Charles Crawford, Ebenezer Paine, John Chamberlin, Penuel Corbin, Jr., William Child, Alfred Walker, tithing men; George Bowen, sealer of weights and measures; Charles Smith, Asa Lyman, John Fowler, 2d, fence viewers; Aaron Corbin, Charles Smith, James Lyon, committee on alteration of highway districts. The rate list of 1820 amounting in value to about $36,000, comprised 363 dwelling houses, 16 mills, 399 horses and mules, 3,009 neat cattle, 27 riding carriages, 13 other carriages, 169 clocks, watches and timepieces. One academy building, 18 school houses and 5 churches (houses of worship) were reported.

Town offices in 1861, at the breaking out of the war of the rebellion, were: Ezra C. May, clerk, registrar and treasurer; Samuel M. Fenner, Asa Goodell, Hezekiah Bishop, selectmen; George N. Lyman, S. W. Bugbee, collectors; Nathan E. Morse, constable; R. S. Mathewson, H. S. Perry, Oliver Marcy, Elias Child, 2d, Baldwin Vinton, Carlo May, grand jurors; Simon Bartholomew, George Bugbee, Albert Morse, assessors; F. W. Flynn, L. D. Underwood, C. C. Potter, board of relief; William Lester,

Otis Perrin, land surveyors; George Bugbee, George A. Paine, J. W. Sessions, S. M. Fenner, Alexander Warner, M. Bradford, John White, board of education; Stephen L. Potter, school treasurer. Very heavy burthens were brought upon the town during this period, in bounties, supplies for soldiers and care of their families. Woodstock maintained its ancient reputation in meeting promptly all public demands, and in the character and service of those who went to the battle. Soon after the close of the war efforts were made to reduce the debt that had been contracted. At the annual town meeting in 1868, Mr. Henry C. Bowen offered to give $5,000, a thousand a year, if the town would cancel the debt in five years. This generous offer was received with general favor, and immediate measures taken for raising the town's proportion. By levying an additional tax each year the needful amount was secured, and the town freed from this encumbrance. The great American flag used at the monster mass meeting of 1868 was also presented to the town by Mr. Bowen.

The republican party was largely in ascendency during the years of the war. In 1872 democrats and liberals united on a ticket for town officers, "composed of good men," but did not succeed in breaking the ranks of the republicans. Ezra C. May still served as town clerk and treasurer; selectmen, George W. Clarke, Stephen D. Skinner, Nathan E. Morse; assessors, Martin Paine, Joseph R. Barber, Joseph M. Morse; board of relief, Amos A. Carrol, William H. Church, John A. Mason; grand jurors, Erastus H. Wells, Henry T. Child, Abiel Fox, Arthur Stetson, Ezra C. Child, Ebenezer Bishop; constables, P. Skinner, Jeremiah Church, John H. Child; John Paine, agent; John A. Mason, treasurer of town deposit fund; registrars of voters, Dis. 1. Lewis J. Wells, William H. Pearson; Dis. 2. George Bugbee, Albert Kenyon; Dis. 3. John Paine, George A. Penniman; school visitors, George S. F. Stoddard, Sylvester Barrows, Ebenezer Bishop, Monroe W. Ide, George Bugbee. George A. Paine served faithfully for several terms in the important office of school fund commissioner.

In 1880 the population of Woodstock numbered 2,639; children between 4 and 16 years of age, 556; grand list, $943,536; dwelling houses, 607; mills, stores, distilleries, manufactories, 49; horses, asses, mules, 647; neat cattle, 2,929; carriages and pleasure wagons, 87. Herbert M. Gifford had then succeeded to

the office of town clerk and treasurer, retaining it till 1888; he was succeeded by Mr. Newton D. Skinner. The present selectmen are Charles H. May, Stephen D. Skinner and Reed Tourtellotte.

Woodstock as a Connecticut town was first included in Pomfret probate district. Its first clerk was Penuel Bowen, of Woodstock, under whose administration the records were lost in the destruction of his house by fire. Woodstock's specific probate court was constituted in 1831, John Paine, judge, George Bowen, clerk. Political jealousies made this office very transitory and migratory for many years, transferring it from parish to parish. John F. Williams, Theophilus B. Chandler, Daniel Lyman, Ezra Child, George A. Paine, G. S. F. Stoddard, T. D. Holmes and Stephen Potter, were among the many who served as judge of probate. A new departure was effected under the administration of Judge Oscar Fisher, who continued in service from July 4th, 1867, to January, 1881, when the present incumbent, Judge Oliver Perry, entered upon service. The wisdom of the civil service reform in this department is conceded by all parties.

Parish divisions in Woodstock are unusually pronounced and definite. After a serious contest the west half of the town was set off as a distinct parish or religious society in 1743, and still remains nearly or quite intact, as the Second or West parish. The First or East parish was again divided after the church controversy of 1850–60. The villages of Woodstock hill, South Woodstock and Quasset are included in the First society. West Woodstock parish includes the villages of West Woodstock and Woodstock Valley. The Third or Northeast society includes East Woodstock village, formerly called Muddy Brook, and North Woodstock village, first known as Village Corners. Town meetings are held alternately in each of the three parishes, and representatives are sent alternately, each sending a representative for two successive years, while one is without a representative every year.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

THE TOWN OF WOODSTOCK—(Concluded).

Early Industries.—Manufacturing.—Decline of Manufacturing.—Agriculture.—Woodstock Agricultural Society.—Senexet Grange.—Theft Detecting Society.—Woodstock Academy.—Church on Woodstock Hill.—The Second Church.—Baptist Churches.—East Woodstock Church.—Methodism.—Universalist Church.—Advent Christian Church.—Present Condition.—Public Celebrations.—Biographical Sketches.

THE industries of Woodstock during its first half century were restricted to the inevitable farming, and such simple arts and trades as are needful to support existence. The first experiment in wider fields was an attempt to utilize the bog iron deposit in West parish. Benjamin Marcy and other residents established a furnace or forge and carried on the works some years previous to 1764, when Marcy sold his right to Hezekiah Smith. Smith and Asahel Marcy continued the business for a number of years, probably until the emigration of the former, and during the revolutionary period the furnace became extinct, but the ore for many years was carried to Stafford for smelting. The first Woodstock brick yard, saw and grist mills were carried on by Ebenezer Lyon, who owned much land in the vicinity of Black pond. A dam still standing at the outlet of the pond, was built by his slaves—the only existing specimen of Woodstock's slave labor. Mr. Lyon was one of the first settlers of Woodstock, a man of wealth for that day and influence. Saw and grist mills were also early established in Woodstock Valley and at South Woodstock and Muddy Brook.

An unique industry was undertaken by Peregrine White, who purchased "a shop on the road from Nathaniel Child to Sturbridge" (a little west of Muddy Brook village) "with all manner of tools and implements" for working on metals, in 1774. This early silversmith shop developed into an institution for the manufacture of tall clocks with full moons and elaborate appurtenances, highly esteemed and patronized for many years by all the

surrounding country. Southward, at Quasset, were found the pottery works of Mr. Thomas Bugbee, established in 1793. The original clay deposit, so useful in constructing chimneys and mason work, was here worked up into all manner of jars, jugs, mugs, inkstands, milk pans and pudding pots. A foreign artisan was employed by the establishment to oversee the various processes of grinding, mixing, kneading and sizing. Each separate piece was fashioned into shape by hand and turning wheel. As many as six kiln-bakings were needed every summer, and some five thousand pieces turned out. This pottery ware was carried far and wide in Mr. Bugbee's familiar pottery cart, and found a market in every household. At least two thousand milk-pans were demanded every season. The bridal outfit of the day included a goodly collection of this fashionable Woodstock pottery ware.

The manufacture of potash was carried on by various parties, especially by Colonel Russel, of Muddy Brook, who had a large and complete establishment, comprising the newest outfit and processes. Coopering, tanning and shoemaking were among the indispensable industries of the town, giving employment to a number of willing workmen. The first fulling mill in West Woodstock was built by Deacon Henry Bowen in 1791, below Lyon's slave dam, with the privilege of use of stream and setting up tenter-bars for drying cloth. This mill was afterward moved down stream and sold to Daniel Mashcraft, who set up a carding machine and continued the business of carding and cloth fulling until woolen manufactories came into vogue. This establishment had a high reputation, farmers' wives from many miles distance bringing to it their wool and domestic cloth for carding and finishing. A carding machine was also set up at Black pond by "Mason and Sumner" in 1803. Grist and saw mills in this vicinity were carried on by Andrew Williams for a number of years. In 1820 James Arnold built and operated a fulling mill on Sawmill brook. A little later, Rhodes Arnold built a saw and shingle mill, and a cider-brandy distillery was also carried on by the brothers. The Hosmer grist mill in the southeast corner of the town was an established institution, dating back to the first settlement of the town.

The rage for cotton spinning reached Woodstock somewhat late for its own benefit. In 1814 Moses Arnold, purchaser of the old Chandler homestead at South Woodstock, united with Wil-

liam Bowen, Thomas Hubbard and Benjamin Duick, of Pomfret, as the "Arnold Manufacturing Company in Woodstock," and as soon as possible put up a wooden building and engaged in cotton spinning. At nearly the same date, Jonathan and William May, John Paine and William Lyon, of Woodstock, with Walter and Royal Paine, of Providence, and Job Williams, of Pomfret, were incorporated as "The Muddy Brook Cotton Manufacturing Company." A factory building was erected a little north of the village, and works set in motion. Chester, Willard and Rensselaer Child, Amasa and Judah Lyon, were incorporated as "The Woodstock Manufacturing Company, for the purpose of manufacturing cloths and other fabrics of wool and cotton," in 1815. A small building and other accommodations in the north of the town were soon provided by this company.

The great depression caused by the return of peace and influx of English goods seriously affected all these companies. The Arnold Company was reconstructed, passing mainly into the hands of the Arnolds. The factories of North Woodstock were reported in the *Gazetteer* of 1819 as upon "a large scale" and doing business extensively. The Woodstock Company now manufactured woolen goods exclusively. In addition to hard times, it suffered from the treachery of an English overseer, who cut the warp in the looms before absconding. This mischief was repaired by the skill and ingenuity of Charles Walker, a youth in their employ, who saved the company from ruin and laid the foundation for personal prosperity and usefulness. In addition to this factory, Judah Lyon carried on the blacksmith's trade and the manufacture of the first patent iron ploughs, superseding the clumsy wooden implements then in use—an innovation which met at first the customary ridicule and opposition.

The Mashcraft establishment in West Woodstock passed into the hands of Joseph Hollinsworth, an Englishman, who manufactured woolen cloth for a number of years. The old Holmes privilege at South Woodstock was purchased about 1840 by Daniel Warner, who engaged in the manufacture of cotton batting. In a few years he built a brick factory building for the manufacture of twine. Leonard Cocking established a woolen mill at Quasset, building a new stone mill in 1844, and utilizing the old Baptist meeting house for a second building. In 1842 Mr. John Lake set in motion "the first, last and only tub and pail shop" in this part of Connecticut. Six thousand tubs and

pails were reported as the annual product, the tubs finding market in Boston, the pails in Norwich. In 1852 he purchased the "old oil mill privilege" of Mr. Rufus Mathewson and engaged successfully in the manufacture of window sash and blinds. The Hosmer mills passed into the hands of Captain Edward B. Harris about 1830. A new building was soon erected and devoted to the manufacture of cotton machinery, which was carried on quite extensively, supplying workmen and factories.

Enterprise was stimulated at the growing center, Village Corners, by the opening of the Central turnpike from Boston to Hartford, replacing the former route through Thompson. The manufacture of wagons and carriages by L. M. Deane & Co. was here initiated about 1835. The excellent character of the work soon won a wide popularity, and the business was carried on successfully for many years. With these many lines of business now carried forward, shoe making stood at the head. Peletiah and Zenas Wight, sons of a veteran tanner and currier in Woodstock Valley, succeeded to the business of their father and added to it as early as 1828 the manufacture of the first sale shoes in Connecticut. Men and women, boys and girls hastened to take advantage of the golden opportunity thus offered, and soon a large business was built up. Other manufacturers hastened to follow this example, and sale shoe-making became a leading business interest, especially notable for the vast number of hands that could be employed in it. In Woodstock and for miles surrounding nearly every dwelling house had a room fitted up or appended for a shoe-making shop. The Wights making a specialty of the shoe called stoggy, the name was applied to the valley, which was known many years by the nickname, "Stoggy Hollow." A. & O. Hiscox and L. & M. Hiscox engaged in the shoe business in this locality, employing about twenty hands each.

Shoe business was begun in West Woodstock village about 1833 by John P. Chamberlin and John O. Fox. In spite of frequent failures and disasters, it continued briskly under a Mechanics' Association and various private shoe dealers, and greatly facilitated the building up and improvement of the village. Lyman Sessions was a prominent shoe manufacturer, engaged also in trade and various enterprises. Village Corners enjoyed an extensive boom in connection with the shoe business of Amasa Carpenter, who also kept the tavern, built new houses and en-

gaged in trade. So extensively was shoe manufacturing pushed forward that in 1845, 5,651,580 pairs of shoes were accredited to Woodstock, and fifty bushels of shoe pegs. Employment was given to 4,918 males, 4,907 women and girls.

The tannery of Mr. Elias Mason, near Muddy Brook village, flourished greatly during this period, furnishing a large supply of leather to these various establishments. But this manufacturing activity was of comparatively short continuance. Flood, fire and financial panic were inimical to Woodstock enterprise. The first serious disaster occurred in 1834, when a new dam constructed at Muddy brook, by Colonel Jonathan May, was carried away by a freshet, involving in its loss the mill and blacksmith shop of Captain Judah Lyon, and much other property. The damage accruing was so heavy that the Muddy Brook Manufacturing Company never regained its footing. The commercial collapse of 1837 brought down several prominent shoe operators; the failure and death of Mr. Elias Mason depressed business and carried distress and straitness to many households. Factories, north, south, east and west were destroyed by fire. Much loss and havoc were wrought by the heavy freshet, February 13th, 1866. The several privileges at South Woodstock had been bought up by Mr. Daniel Warner, who constructed a new reservoir and dam, intended to carry forward large manufacturing operations. Dam and factory were washed away, together with Lake's sash and blind shop, a blacksmith's shop and other buildings, part of Mr. S. M. Fenner's store, and three bridges belonging to the town. Later factory buildings at Quasset and Woodstock Valley, and even the mills on the old Bartholomew site of 1686, were all consumed by fire.

To these casualties were added the inevitable changes resulting from the introduction of new methods of business and travel. Monster cotton and woolen factories crushed out the minor enterprises, and machine-made shoes greatly lessened the demand for those of hand labor. Manufactures and trade were alike drawn to the convenient railroad center, and Woodstock's shoe shops and factories were stranded by the law of progress. Shoe manufacturing, however, was carried on by T. P. Leonard & Co., in Woodstock valley, until about 1870.

Various business enterprises are still maintained in the southwest corner of the town. Grain and lumber business has been carried on by A. Hiscox and son for many years, on the site of

the old Lyon grist mill. The Kenyon factory at Kenyonville has been remarkably successful, and still flourishes under the skillful management of W. S. Kenyon. The phosphate manufactory of Sanford Bosworth gravitated to Putnam, but the mill is now occupied by James B. Tatem, for the manufacture of all kinds of wooden handles, from a small awl to a trip-hammer. About 50,000 feet of lumber are worked up every year, giving employment to six or eight men. The lumber interest in West Woodstock is of much importance. A large quantity of timber is annually sent to market. Water-mill saw mills are kept busily at work by J. B. Tatem & Son, A Hiscox & Son, E. C. Chamberlain, C. H. Stone and Luther Marcy, with steam to help out a short supply of water.

Carriage making is still carried on at North Woodstock village. Mr. Thomas Milligan occupies the former Deane manufactory site; Newton D. Skinner has accommodations in the vicinity. Colman continues the manufacture of twine on the site of Lake's sash and blind factory, and a stockinet yarn factory is run at Quasset by Mr. Arthur Williams. Needful grist mills and saw mills are maintained in different parts of the town. Vicinity to thriving business centers has greatly diminished the local trade in the several villages, and in place of the numerous lively stores formerly demanded scarcely one in each manages to support existence.

The leading interest in the town is agricultural. Woodstock farms supported a large population long before the days of experimental manufacture. With the building up of Southbridge, Webster and Putnam, has come a ready market and greatly increased demand for the products of the farm. The improvement in farming utensils, the multiplication of agricultural newspapers, books, clubs and co-operative societies have farther stimulated interest and progress in all the arts of husbandry. Improved methods of farming have been adopted, new breeds of cattle introduced, and advance made in various directions. The fine cattle raised on the "Captain William Lyon farm" by the late Mr. Benjamin Sumner, were celebrated throughout the agricultural fairs of New England. Woodstock farmers, viz., Amos Paine, James McClellan, and others, were prominent in the first agricultural societies of Windham county. Their exhibits were conspicuous in the successive annual fairs at Brooklyn. In 1861 it was deemed expedient to organize a distinct so-

ciety in the north part of the county. Horace Sabin, Lucius Fitts, Winthrop O. Green, Edmond Wilkinson, James Allen, Gilbert W. Phillips, Rufus S. Mathewson, Ezra Deane, George Penniman, John F. Williams, Jonathan Skinner, Azel Sumner, Horace Gaylord, John H. Simmons, Thomas E. Graves, Jeremiah Olney, were accordingly incorporated as "The Woodstock Agricultural Society"—authorized to hold property not exceeding $20,000 and dispose of it at pleasure. Ample and convenient grounds were secured at South Woodstock, the society holding its first fair on the Common and using the vestry of the Baptist church for a hall. The success of the first exhibition guaranteed the permanence of the society. Attendance and interest were all that could be desired, and the annual Woodstock fair was thenceforth classed among the established institutions of Windham county.

Year by year the interest has increased, extending to residents of other towns, and greatly stimulating agricultural development. The average attendance is rated at some six thousand, the exhibitions surpassing also the average of the ordinary county fair. The list of life members includes nearly five hundred names, embracing many of the most wide-awake men in the county. The office of president has been filled by Messrs. Ezra Child, Ezra Deane, Horace Sabin, Pomfret, John Giles, L. M. Deane, John O. Fox, O. H. Perry, G. A. Penniman, Oscar Tourtellotte, Thompson, C. H. May, T. W. Williams, Pomfret, S. O. Bowen, Eastford, G. A. Bowen, M. F. Towne, Thompson, F. W. Perry and A. M. Bancroft. The present officers are: President, Henry T. Child; vice-presidents, W. I. Bartholomew, Pomfret, G. T. Bixby, E. A. Wheelock, Putnam; recording secretary, L. J. Wells; corresponding secretary, H. W. Hibbard; treasurer, Amos M. Paine; auditors, T. W. Williams, S. H. Phillips, W. A. Weaver, Jr.; directors, S. O. Bowen, J. M. Morse, C. N. Chandler, R. E. Smith, Putnam, J. H. Larned, Pomfret, H. K. Safford, L. A. Catlin, L. H. Healey, F. Cutler, Putnam, G. A. Hawkins, Thompson; committee of arrangements—for hall, C. H. Child, G. C. Williams, W. H. Chandler, Mrs. E. W. Arnold; for rental of grounds, A. M. Paine, L. J. Wells; marshall, G. T. Bixby.

With growing prosperity accommodations have multiplied. A hall built on South Woodstock common by Mr. Daniel Warner in 1860 was occupied by the society till 1871, when a new building was erected on the "Fair Grounds" purchased from

Mr. Thomas Warner. The judges' stand and cattle sheds were added in a few years. In 1885 a large addition was made to the hall, with much increased accommodations. A band stand, poultry house and grand stand have been since added, the latter seating about seven hundred people. A dining hall and kitchen under the grand stand, and a horse barn with stalls, are the latest improvements. The patrons of this institution take pride in its excellent management and the encouragement given to improvement in every branch of agriculture.

A very wide awake farmers' club enjoyed profitable discussion for many years, but has given place to a very flourishing Grange, organized in Woodstock, February 17th, 1886, with thirty-four members. George A. Bowen was elected master; H. W. Hibbard, lecturer; L. J. Wells, secretary. The progress of "Senexet Grange" is apparently very satisfactory, though details are discreetly veiled from public view. Its master, Doctor G. A. Bowen, serves as lecturer for the State Grange, and is very prominently connected with the interests of the organization. Lewis J. Wells also serves as state secretary. A large number are connected with Senexet Grange, and its meetings are reported as exceptionally agreeable and profitable. One of Woodstock's latest agricultural achievements is a creamery near the residence of H. T. Child. This is well patronized by dairy men and women, and promises to be a profitable and labor saving institution.

A theft-detecting society was one of Woodstock's earliest co-operative experiments. Organized far back in 1793, in days of poverty and sore temptation, it doubtless served as a preventive to crime and petty pilfering. The officers of the society were president, vice-president, clerk, treasurer and six pursuers. These latter officials were furnished with means for providing themselves with good horses, with which they were expected to pursue thieves at a moment's notice. Ordinary members were only required to pay their annual dues and help eat up the good dinner provided for the society. In 1824 the society was formally incorporated, and has since maintained serene existence, the chief incident of its career the annual dinner and speech making. Another ancient institution, the Putnam Masonic Lodge, second in Windham county, has been transplanted from Pomfret to Woodstock, finding accommodations in the new Agricultural Hall building. Embracing in its past membership

many of the sterling men of the county, it still holds its own amid the multiplicity of modern organizations.

The care of public schools was early made over to the three parishes. Each parish acted as a distinct school society, building school houses, hiring teachers and managing its own educational affairs. Under this system the common schools were well sustained, and turned out an unusual supply of competent and successful teachers. It has been said that no crop in Woodstock was so sure as its school teachers. Not only has it raised a sufficient supply for its own numerous schools, but a large number has been sent out to help enlighten the ignorance of other towns. Part of this proficiency is doubtless due to the additional stimulus given by the Woodstock Academy, which has furnished means of higher instruction to successive generations. A regard for education was an early feature in Woodstock history, leading to the establishment of a flourishing high school previous to 1730.

The public schools conducted in every district were supplemented by private instruction from such able and learned men as Reverends Abel Stiles and Stephen Williams. The latter minister fitted many young men for college, numbering among his pupils such future celebrities as Abiel Holmes and Jedidiah Morse. A demand for higher educational privileges kept pace with the growth and expansion of the young republic. The curriculum of the crowded "District School house" was far too narrow for aspirants for high political office and business influence, and Woodstock forestalled other northern towns in securing the establishment of an academy. General McClellan, with his sons, Major John and James McClellan, Deacon Jedidiah Morse, General David Holmes, and other influential men, gave their countenance to the project. Reverend Eliphalet Lyman, pastor of the church at Woodstock hill, was its most active and successful advocate.

On January 12th, 1801, the proprietors of the South half of Woodstock granted liberty to set an academy building on the common north of the meeting house. Funds for building were to be secured by the gift of an hundred dollars each, from thirty-two citizens of Woodstock. Having headed the list with his own subscription, Mr. Lyman rode on horseback all over the town, and by his eloquence and persistency secured the requisite names and pledges. An efficient building committee

was appointed, who pushed forward the work with unwonted speed. Farmers offered best white oak timber at half its market value, in their eagerness to help found an academy. It was said that the boards brought would reach from Woodstock to Providence. The raising was made a day of special festivity and rejoicing, all Woodstock turning out, as well as volunteers from sister towns. "A good slice of the ample common was filled with people, ox-teams and horses." Boys, sires and grandsires assisted in the several stages of the work. Major David Holmes gallantly volunteered to be swung up on an eighty-foot timber to adjust the steeple frame. Volunteer labor cheerfully helped smooth off the ground, haul up a suitable door step from the old hearth-stone quarry, and install in the belfry a much prized bell.

Yale College was much interested in this projected institution and selected one of its most promising graduates, Thomas Williams, of Pomfret, for the first preceptor. February 4th, 1802, the new academy building was formerly opened and dedicated. "The event of establishing a seminary of learning, superior to any other which had been previously enjoyed," brought together a large and deeply interested assembly. Appropriate addresses were made by Esquire McClellan and Mr. Lyman, the exercises closing by the presentation of the key of the academy to Mr. Williams "in the name of the trustees and with the approbation of the proprietors." School opened the next day with nearly a hundred pupils. Board for pupils from other towns could be found for five shillings a week in the best families.

Incorporation was secured in the spring by act of legislature, whereby Samuel McClellan, Eliphalet Lyman, Nehemiah Child, Ebenezer Smith, William Potter, Hezekiah Bugbee, Ichabod Marcy, Jesse Bolles, David Holmes and others, were made a body corporate. Five trustees annually appointed by the proprietors were to superintend the management of affairs. Mr. Williams was succeeded in the office of preceptor by Hezekiah Frost, of Canterbury, and he by other youthful Yale graduates. The academy continued very popular, attracting many pupils from out of town. William Larned Marcy, of Sturbridge; David Young, of Killingly; Prescott and David Hall, of Pomfret, were among its early pupils, famous in later years. George McClellan, afterward the distinguished surgeon of Philadelphia, father of General George B. McClellan; Ebenezer Stoddard, future

congressional representative and lieutenant-governor of Connecticut, and many other Woodstock boys destined to win success in varying fields, enjoyed the privilege of attendance at Woodstock Academy.

The constant change of teachers was detrimental to the interests of the school. The administration of Preceptor Rinaldo Burleigh—an experienced teacher—from 1810 to 1813, was exceptionally favorable, and brought the institution to the culmination of its early prosperity. Aaron Skinner, the much-beloved mayor of New Haven; the Reverend Doctors Willard Child and Alvin Bond, the Burleigh brothers, so prominent in abolition agitation, received part of their early training in Woodstock Academy. A period of great depression occurred between 1820 and 1843, rival institutions in many towns and the lack of means, discouraging local effort. With the advent of Mr. Henry C. Bowen as a summer resident, new interest was awakened. The old academy building was thoroughly repaired and a first class teacher procured—Mr. John T. Averill. Under his stimulating influence a large number of scholars were attracted and much enthusiasm awakened. New chemical apparatus was procured, elm trees set out in front of the academy by teachers and scholars, a printed catalogue issued. After four years of continued prosperity, further advance was made under the preceptorship of Mr. James W. Patterson, assisted part of the term by Miss Edna Dean Proctor. These distinguished teachers impressed themselves strongly upon their pupils, and gave character to the school.

Competent instructors maintained its standing till about 1860, when another lapse ensued. By successful effort after a few years an endowment fund was raised and a new and capacious academy building erected at the cost of over $20,000. Five thousand dollars was given by Mr. H. C. Bowen to each of these objects, and the remaining large amount raised by some hundred interested friends and subscribers from Woodstock and other towns. The new building was opened with appropriate exercises August 21st, 1873. Reverend Nathaniel Beach reported in behalf of the trustees. Addresses were made by Governor Buckingham, Secretary B. G. Northrup and others. Mr. Clarence W. Bowen rehearsed the history of the academy in all its varied phases. A noteworthy feature in the day's programme was the reading of a most delightful and characteristic letter

from Doctor Oliver W. Holmes, descendant of one of the original settlers of Woodstock. Thus accommodated and endowed, the academy has entered upon a new career of usefulness. While under the present graded school system fewer scholars from abroad are obliged to seek the academy, it furnishes the means of thorough education to all scholars within the town. Competent and successful teachers have been employed, and a goodly number of well trained graduates sent out into the world. Elmwood Hall furnishes convenient board for such city students as prize pure air and congenial environment. Among Woodstock's many achievements she has none more worthy of praise and gratulation then her well endowed academy.

The church on Woodstock hill remained without a stated pastor some three years after the deposition of Reverend Abel Stiles, when it harmoniously united with the society in extending a call to Mr. Abiel Leonard, of Plymouth. Faithful to the Old Dominion and Cambridge Platform, eleven Massachusetts churches were invited to carry forward the ordaining exercises, June 23d, 1763, and over ten pounds expended in "liquors, sugar and lemons." The eloquence and affability of the young minister soon won the hearts of the congregation, and old grievances were gradually overlooked and forgotten. In 1766 the rupture was so far healed that mutual concessions were interchanged between the two churches and amicable relations permanently established. Those honored brethren, Jedidiah Morse and William Skinner, were now elected deacons; a vote was passed, "That a chapter in the Bible should be read publicly every Lord's day if agreeable to the congregation, and three forward seats in the front gallery sequestered for the use of the singers." Those women, both elder and younger, that were favored with agreeable voices were desired by the society to occupy the reserved seats on the women's side. Repairs were made in the meeting house, and everything indicated renewed harmony and prosperity. Old men in later years looked back to this era as "the Golden Age" of Woodstock, when the renovated house was filled with joyful worshippers, and the pastor, with his two deacons, "the largest and finest looking men in the parish," sat together at the communion table.

War with its absolute demands turned all this joy into mourning. The beloved pastor was called away and many of the congregation. Mr. Leonard served most efficiently as chaplain of

Putnam's regiment, preaching with great acceptance on several important occasions. An autograph letter from Washington and Putnam "to the church and congregation at Woodstock," requesting that his term of service might be extended, is held as a sacred relic. The church, unable to vote consent, "in silence manifested its *resignation*." His mournful end overwhelmed his people with sorrow. Overstaying a furlough, according to tradition, on account of dangerous illness in his household, he was met on his way back to camp by a rumor of disgrace and dismissal, and in a moment of weakness took his life with his own hand. His widow and family remained in Woodstock.

After two years interim, Eliphalet Lyman, of Lebanon, was ordained as pastor, September 2d, 1779, having first given satisfaction as to his doctrinal standing. He was an able and sound preacher, and held a leading position among the clergy of his generation. In the early part of his ministry he was involved in an unpleasant controversy with Hon. Zephaniah Swift, of Windham, in consequence of his attitude toward Oliver Dodge, Pomfret's reprobate minister. The refusal of Mr. Lyman to allow Dodge the use of his pulpit called out a most vituperous castigation from the irate judge, and he was also subjected to a legal trial and damages for intrusion upon his own meeting house. The affair occasioned much excitement and ill feeling, and was widely ventilated in current newspapers. This incident may have stiffened the orthodoxy of Mr. Lyman and his church, which in 1815 joined the Windham County Consociation, and thus identified itself with Connecticut churches, after a century of spirited opposition.

In 1821 the First society entered upon the work of building a new meeting house; Captain William Lyon, General David Holmes and William K. Green, committee; Rhodes Arnold and James Lyon were commissoned to take down the old house in a prudent manner; Jedidiah Kimball, to procure subscriptions to defray expenses of building. Four long days in June were spent in gratuitous labor upon the foundation. At seven in the morning, August 22d, 1821, the work of raising the new frame was initiated by prayer from Mr. Lyman. Free dinners and supper, and spirit at eighty-nine cents a gallon, helped incite a large attendance, so that by noon the second day the frame was successfully erected, when, "in view of the goodness of God in preserving the lives and limbs of all those who were engaged in

this perilous business," the meeting was closed by a second prayer from Mr. Lyman and a thanksgiving anthem. Though so auspiciously begun, the work was carried on with difficulty, but by July 11th, 1822, this was so far surmounted that the house was publicly dedicated. The veteran chorister, Mr. Flynn, was requested "to select such tunes as he may think proper, and with the rest of the singers learn and sing them on the day of dedication." James Lyon, Doctor Daniel Lyman, John McClellan, Esq., Spalding Barstow and Rhodes Arnold had charge of seating the large congregation. The sermon was preached by the venerable pastor. The bell had been recast by Major George Holbrook, a communion table given by Mr. Jedidiah Kimball, and the ladies of the congregation had tastefully assisted in dressing the pulpit. Two years later Mr. Lyman was dismissed from his charge at his own request.

His successor, Ralph S. Crampton, ordained May 22d, 1827, remained but little over two years, the anti-Masonic agitation hastening his departure. The vote not to receive into the church any person who was a member of the Masonic institution, was afterward rescinded. The pastorate of Reverend William M. Cornell continued three years. Reverend Otis Rockwood, installed November 20th, 1834, remained nine years. He was much interested in temperance and kindred reforms, and in 1842 received forty persons into the membership of the church. Reverend Jonathan Curtis was installed February 18th, 1846, and labored faithfully till smitten with paralysis. He was dismissed by the same council which ordained his successor, Henry M. Colton, November 18th, 1852, who after a three years' pastorate was dismissed at his own request. Reverend Lemuel Grosvenor, of Pomfret, next served as acting pastor for five years, and on Thanksgiving day, 1859, gave an interesting historical sketch of church and society. Reverends James L. Corning, J. A. Wilkins, J. W. Allen, J. W. Lyon, followed in quick succession. In 1868 Reverend Nathaniel Beach was received as acting pastor, and remained ten years in charge, greatly respected and beloved in church and county. The succeeding six years' service of Reverend F. M. E. Bachelor was also acceptable and profitable.

With such experience the church willingly returned to its primitive mode of settlement, inviting Reverend E. B. Bingham to become its pastor, and after more than thirty years lapse enjoyed the privilege of installation. Very interesting services

were held, April 14th, 1885. The sermon was given by a descendant of several old Woodstock families—Doctor George L. Walker, Hartford—and former beloved pastors participated in the services. A united, strong, aggressive church is reported as the happy result of this five years' pastorate. Spiritual and material prosperity are alike quickened. Young people join with much heartiness in wide-awake "Christian endeavor" and missionary societies.

The church edifice of 1821 has been made over and beautified. So complete a transformation has rarely been accomplished. The plain, old-fashioned meeting house, with its double row of square windows, high galleries, rectangular pews and awkward pulpit, is replaced by an æsthetic auditorium, elaborated in every detail with the best skill of modern art and taste. Eleven stained glass windows, of exquisite design and coloring, add greatly to its effectiveness and beauty, in soothing contrast with the glare of other days. Beautiful in themselves, these memorial windows transmit to succeeding generations the memory of departed worth. A window contributed by Doctor Oliver Wendell Holmes, Hon. E. H. Bugbee, and others, bears a portrait of the first white man connected with the history of Woodstock—the pioneer Indian missionary, John Eliot. One of the leading spirits in the first settlement, Lieutenant Edward Morris, is most fitly commemorated in the window given by his descendant, J. F. Morris, of Hartford. A third perpetuates the memory of the gifted and eloquent chaplain, Abiel Leonard, so beloved by his people, so prized by Washington and Putnam. Sacred to the memory of Elizabeth Beach, a heroine of to-day, is another window. The daughter of an honored Woodstock pastor, a successful teacher in Woodstock Academy, appreciative pupils have thus shown their reverence for her high character and valued missionary service. The remaining memorial windows were given by Messrs. Edward E. and Henry C. Bowen, and by representatives of the well-known families of Bugbee, Carrol, Lyon, Mathewson and McClellan. The renovated church edifice was re-dedicated February 17th, 1889, with sermon by Mr. Bingham and prayer by Mr. Beach. Music from the new organ added to the interest of the occasion. The church on Woodstock hill, near the close of its second century, enters upon a new period of prosperity and usefulness.

The Second church, gathered in New Roxbury, pursued its way quietly after the settlement of Mr. Williams. Comprising at

first residents throughout the parish, its numbers were reduced by the development of Baptist principles and interests; yet the number of children baptized was very large. Mr. Williams was an able preacher and ranked well among the ministry of the day. He was also a successful teacher, receiving many young men into his family for instruction. His own sons, Stephen and Timothy, were fitted for college, together with John McClellan and other Woodstock youths. Diaries kept by Messrs. Stephen and Timothy Williams give a vivid picture of colonial and college life. The Williams homestead, with its inmates, comes freshly before us. We see the busy pastor studying, writing, visiting the sick, attending numerous funerals, catechizing the children in various schools, and entertaining the increasing flow of company with patriarchal hospitality. The young men study and read, help about farm work, install the great logs upon the hearthstone, and bring reports from the busy world about them. With them we participate in installation and training days, funerals and frolics, school exhibition and college commencement, and gather all the news and gossip of neighborhood and towns adjoining. How vital the question of the new mode of singing, just introduced into West Woodstock church! Our young men favor regular singing and set tunes, and record with reprehension the conduct of those church fathers who stalk out of the meeting house when "Virginia" is sung, or other obnoxious tunes attempted. In 1782 it was voted "That the singing be carried on by reading the portion line by line till the last singing of the afternoon, and then a whole verse to be read at a time." Six choristers were appointed to lead in this exercise. This proving unsatisfactory, "that they may all rest easy," after large debate it was decided "That the deacon read the portion line by line in the forenoon, and in the afternoon a verse at a time, except the double-verse tunes, and them to be sung through without reading."

The meeting house soon after this date was thoroughly repaired, fitted up with pews, and painted in fashionable stone color, the roof a Spanish brown. Mr. Williams remained in charge till advanced age, sustaining through life a very amiable and worthy character. His son Stephen was cordially invited to the vacant pastorate, but thought best to decline. The place was filled by another resident of the parish, Alvan Underwood, a graduate of Brown University, ordained and installed May 27th,

1801. John Fox, Elias Child, 2d, and Philip Howard served as society committee; John Austin, Parker Morse and John Paine as special committee, "to attend on and see to seating people, and to keeping order and regularity in the assembly of spectators." The pastorate thus inaugurated was peaceful and prosperous. Mr. Underwood was of an especially genial and sympathetic nature, beloved by old and young. The church singing was carried on successfully and harmoniously, Mr. Jathniel Perrin, a famous singing master, taking the place of the former six choristers. The new bass-viol introduced during this period was cared for and kept in order by Benjamin Lyon, 3d, Abiel Fox and Abraham Paine.

In 1821 a new meeting house was completed. Darius Barlow, John Fox, Abram W. Paine, Elias Child, 2d, Benjamin Lyon, 2d, successfully circulated subscriptions for necessary funds. A year's salary for that purpose was relinquished by Mr. Underwood. Ebenezer Skinner, Benjamin E. Palmer and William Lyon were deputized "to stick the corner stakes for the foundation," and within two years the work was accomplished. Several revivals were enjoyed and valued accessions made to the church during Mr. Underwood's ministry, and its first Sabbath school was successfully established. Thomas Child, Edmund Chamberlain, Ebenezer Corbin, Timothy Perrin, Shubael Child, Gideon Shaw, Henry Bowen, Stephen Johnson, Albe Abbot, Jacob Lyon, Alexander Dorrance and Laban Underwood had then served the church in the office of deacon. March 30th, 1833, Mr. Underwood was dismissed from his office, and engaged mainly in evangelistic labor, returning to West Woodstock in the closing years of his life.

John D. Baldwin in 1834 entered upon three years service. During his ministry a new confession of faith and church covenant were prepared and adopted, and pains taken to collect and preserve the church records. Reverend Benjamin Ober was installed pastor December 4th, 1839. The revival of 1841–2 brought thirty-eight persons into the church. Ill health soon compelled Mr. Ober to resign his office. Reverend E. F. Brooks served from 1846 to 1849. Reverend Joseph W. Sessions was installed March 27th, 1854, and continued ten years in service. About seventy were added to the church during the great revival season of 1857–58, adding much to its strength and vitality. Equally fruitful was the ministry of his successor, Reverend

Henry F. Hyde, whose praise is still vocal in other Windham county churches. During his three years' ministry in West Woodstock the Sabbath school was much increased and many families added to the congregation.

Other faithful ministers have followed as stated supplies, the latest but the present, Reverend John P. Trowbridge, preparing an interesting historical discourse, delivered in his own church September 29th, 1886, in commemoration of the two hundreth anniversary of the settlement of the town. Reverend John Avery, one of the former pastors of the church, assisted in the service. Ancient hymns were sung under the leadership of Mr. Luther Fox, and many aged members of the church enjoyed the privileges of the occasion. Though from unfavorable circumstances, the church in West Woodstock has lapsed from its early prominence and standing, it has sent out into the world many faithful men and women, and fulfilled in good measure the designs and hopes of its founders.

A Baptist church was organized in New Roxbury parish in 1766. A Baptist element had previously existed, and a Six Principle Baptist church had been formed and disbanded. Fresh interest in Baptist principles was aroused by the preaching of Reverend Noah Alden, a popular Baptist minister, which led to the conversion of young Biel Ledoyt, a former leader in merry-making and frolic. Young friends attempting to ridicule and argue with him were themselves convicted and converted, and many young people became subjects of a powerful work of grace. "Parents were amazed to see their giddy children distressed for their souls." Frolic and dance were given up, the Bible and good books read eagerly, meetings for prayer and exhortation greatly frequented. The standing church of West Woodstock, always noted for formality and somewhat rigid orthodoxy, looked with some suspicion upon these irregular and enthusiastic demonstrations. A church fast was proclaimed, and several sound divines invited to advise in this emergency, who, with marvelous lack of wisdom, "fell to reading about false spirits, and Satan transforming himself into an angel of light," insinuating that the late powerful work was a delusion, and "the first instruments of their awakening" the deceivers which should come in at the last time.

No wonder that these young converts turned to the church which offered them comfort and liberty, and separating from the

church of their fathers, agreed to meet together as a society, improving the gifts which God had given them. At the first favorable opportunity a number were baptized by immersion, and in February, 1766, a church of sixteen members was constituted, under the guidance of three ordained Baptist members. Increasing rapidly in numbers, May 26th, 1768, Biel Ledoyt was ordained as its pastor.

As the First Baptist church in a large section of country it held a commanding position, and was early connected with the Warren Association, of Rhode Island. Opposition from the standing church increased its influence and popularity with the masses. While a majority of the West Woodstock church was disposed to admit the claims of this Baptist church and release its members from taxation, a minority stoutly denied the validity of their organization, and protested against "freeing the Anabaptist people in this society from paying minister's rates amongst us." After much discussion and wrangling the matter was referred to the wise judgment of Jonathan Trumbull, who showed with much clearness, "that the Baptist churches in this Colony are no otherwise known in law than that church of Baptists in your society is, that those people having formed themselves into a Baptist church and society . . . are excused from paying any part in your society tax for the support of your minister."

This matter settled, the church continued to gain in numbers. A rough meeting house was soon built and well filled with hearers. With some peculiarities of character and expression, Elder Ledoyt was an able preacher. Timothy Williams attending a chance service in 1788, reports, "a thronged assembly; First prayer, seven or eight minutes; sermon, Eph. III: 8, one hour in length; last prayer, ten minutes." Serious difficulties soon after ensued, scattering the large congregation and dividing the church. Various councils failing to heal the breach, Elder Ledoyt withdrew to Newport, N. H., "leaving his flock in a very broken and divided condition." Members were added through the labors of Samuel Webster, a colored evangelist. January 19th, 1799, Brother Robert Stanton was ordained as pastor over the First Baptist church in Woodstock, "as long as they are profitable to each other." During his ministry some fifty were added to the church, and a new church edifice constructed.

Difficulties marring the profitableness of Mr. Stanton's ministry, he was succeeded by Elder Ledoyt in 1806, who found a door opened by God's Providence, "whereby he must return and labor with the church of his youth." Malignant disease ended life and faithful service, March 24th, 1813. He was succeeded by Elder Nicholas Branch, long known and honored in the ministry, but then a youth just entering ministerial service. "Peace, love, union and prosperity" were enjoyed during his six years' ministry. In succeeding brief pastorates a remarkable revival was experienced, adding sixty to the church. Uniting in the Ashford Association, formed in 1825, it reported 110 members, 45 baptisms during the year. The faithful labors of Elder George B. Atwell extended over nine years, and were greatly blessed to the growth and spirituality of the church. His successors, Elders Nathan D. Benedict and Bela Hicks, were faithful and successful pastors.

The great revival season of 1841–42, brought the membership of the church to nearly two hundred. Reverends Isaac Woodbury, Henry Bromley, Edward Brown, Thomas Holman and John Paine officiated as pastors in varying terms of service. Reverend Leavitt Wakeman served from 1855 to 1858, when Elder Branch again assumed the charge. Reverend W. A. Worthington followed in 1861, and was succeeded in 1865 by Reverend J. Torrey Smith. The hundredth anniversary of the organization of the church was observed in November, 1866, when a valuable historic discourse was delivered by the pastor. Former pastors assisted in the service in person or by appropriate letters. In 1869 the meeting house was thoroughly repaired and renovated, the sisters of the church giving much effective aid. Reverend Sylvester Barrows served as pastor from 1869 to 1874. A new parsonage was built by the society during his pastorate. Reverend Samuel J. Bronson became pastor in 1875, and died in charge in 1879. His successor, Reverend William H. Smith, remained in service six years.

Loss of population has told heavily upon this as on other churches in West Woodstock, so that its present membership is much reduced. Four of its members have been licensed to go forth as preachers, viz., Miner G. Clark, John B. Guild, Hugh Dempsey, Percival Mathewson. A beloved sister of the church, Calista Holman, the wife of Reverend Justus H. Vinton, has accomplished most valued missionary work among the Karens.

Her son, Justus B. Vinton, while laboring in the same distant field, maintained his connection with the West Woodstock Baptist church. Many other members have gone out to help build up and strengthen other churches throughout our own country. The list of deacons serving the church comprises many honored names, viz., Nehemiah Underwood, John Morse, David Bolles, Samuel Crawford, Sr., Aaron Gage, Penuel Corbin, Sr. and Jr., Luther Tucker, Charles Mathewson, Samuel Crawford, Jr., Halsey Leonard, Joseph E. Dean, Shubael Day, Francis L. Corbin.

Woodstock's Second Baptist church was gathered at what was known as Quasset, June 29th, 1792. The council was held at the spacious old Bolles House, occupied by Jesse Bolles, tanner and shoemaker, a prominent Baptist. Thirty-five members united in fellowship. Amos Wells of Stonington, was ordained pastor August 9th the same year. Jesse Bolles and Robert Baxter were chosen deacons. A convenient house of worship was soon erected on land given by Deacon Bolles. The Stonington Association met with this church in 1795, and found a membership of 76. Deacons Baxter and Bolles, Brothers James, Jeremiah and Childs Wheaton, Charles Chandler, Robert Aplin, Artemas Bruce and Thomas Bugbee, were chosen a committee to aid in settling difficulties between the members in 1802. William H. Manning was chosen deacon upon the removal of Deacon Bolles; Childs Wheaton succeeded Deacon Baxter. Elder Wells was retained as pastor till 1811, a man of power and public influence, especially in relation to the ecclesiastic constitution of Connecticut. When, by vote of the town, Baptists and Methodists were allowed to preach to the freemen on election day, Elder Wells chose for his text Paul's assertion, "But I was free born," and his stirring sermon was published and widely circulated.

His successor, Reverend George Angell, was a man of lovely Christian spirit. James Wheaton, Thomas Bugbee, William Manning, John Sanger are names honored in the history of this Woodstock Second Baptist church. Deacon Sanger received liberty to preach as he had opportunity, and his fervent exhortations are still remembered. The prevalence of Millerite sentiments greatly reduced the membership of the church, but its prosperity returned with its removal to South Woodstock, where a new church edifice was erected in 1844, upon land granted by the town. The venerable John Paine then served as pastor. Many other faithful men have served in its ministry. Elder John

Paine, honored in many Baptist churches, officiated at the time of the removal to South Woodstock. The late Reverend Percival Mathewson, born and reared in Woodstock, spent his closing years with this church.

The church of East Woodstock, or Muddy Brook, as it was formerly called, assumed local habitation in that precinct early in 1760, taking with it minister, records, church utensils, indicative of previous existence. There is no evidence of any reorganization at that date. An established church or body of believers simply changed its place of worship. An ecclesiastic society, known as the Third or North parish of Woodstock, was organized October 30th, 1760, Nathaniel Child, Nehemiah Lyon, Caleb May, committee. It was voted, November 24th, "To build a meeting house of the same bigness as that admired edifice in the first society." The choice of site occasioned some delay, during which interval the church held services in the dwelling house of Benjamin Child, Jr., still standing near the residence of Mr. N. E. Morse. Successive committees agreed in fixing the meeting house spot on land given by Nathaniel Child, east of the brook, but there were those who preferred a more westward site, and transmitted their preference to their descendants. Nathaniel Child, Esq., Lieutenant Ephraim Child, Ensign Stephen May, Stephen Lyon, Ezra May, served as building committee.

The house was so far completed as to be ready for occupation August 8th, 1762. Pew spots were granted to Reverend Abel Stiles, Madam Urania Lyon (widow of Captain Jabez Lyon, a prominent resident then recently deceased), Stephen Lyon, Deacon Daniel Lyon, Nathaniel Child, Esq., Captain Nehemiah Lyon, Benjamin Wilkinson, Henry Child, Elisha Child, Deacon John May, Caleb May, Thomas May, Ephraim Child, Job Revere, Stephen May, Joshua May, Samuel Chandler, Benjamin Child, Jr., Josiah Sumner, Samuel Corbin, Jesse Carpenter, Alexander Brown, Moses Marcy and Seth Chandler. Four pews in the rear were added afterward. The house was large and abundantly lighted, and seated a large congregation.

Mr. Stiles completed a new dwelling house nearly opposite in 1763, and enjoyed a peaceful anchorage after his many trials. Substantial residents in adjacent parts of New Roxbury and Thompson parishes were annexed to the society. Land for a burial ground was purchased of Elisha Child, and Nathaniel Child was chosen to care for the meeting house and dig the graves.

Singing received immediate attention, Nathaniel Child and Caleb May being selected "to tune the Psalms of this society." Joseph Manning and Increase Child were soon called to render assistance in that office. In 1774 Asa Child, Samuel Corbin, Jr., and Chester Child were requested to assist in tuning the psalm. As early as 1780 money was paid for "instruction in singing," probably to Jedidiah Morse, Jr., a proficient in that line. Opposition to new tunes was manifested, as in West Woodstock, by the withdrawal of offended hearers, Deacon Nehemiah Lyon marching gravely out when St. Martyn's was sung.

Mr. Stiles remained in charge till 1783, though in great bodily infirmity, "his soul wading in clouds and temptations." Impressive funeral services are reported in the diary of Stephen Williams: "A crowded assembly of above a thousand persons, the remains of Rev. Abel Stiles being placed in the broad alley, Mr. Gleason made first prayer; Dadda preached (Rev. Stephen Williams); Mr. Ripley in behalf of the mourners made a short but comprehensive and pertinent speech at the grave after Mr. Russel had closed with prayer." Reverend Joshua Johnson, previously ordained as colleague, continued in charge till 1790. Mr. Stephen Williams, as delegate, reports the ordination of his successor, Reverend William Graves, August 31st, 1791. After preliminary grog drinking at Nehemiah Child's, "the council marched into the meeting house followed by the multitude, a thousand of whom filled the house, and perhaps five hundred without. Rev. Josiah Whitney as scribe read the doings of council. Woodstock was sung before the prayer, then Montague. Joseph Lyman gave a solid old divinity sermon from John 21, 17, forty-five minutes; addressed only pastor elect and society. Mr. Whitney with imposition of hands made ordaining prayer, ten minutes. Rev. Stephen Williams gave the charge, eight minutes, Eliphalet Lyman with considerable pathos the right hand of fellowship. Rev. Mr. Graves read psalm, well sung—Lisbon—and dismissed people a little after one; attention and decent solemnity remarkable; no opposition appears though a number profess neutrality. By Mr. Graves' request drank punch, cherry, and wine, and dined well with the council at Mr. Thomas May's, who entertains gratis. Rode with Mr. Mosely of Sturbridge or Hampton, theologue, towards night, to Bowen's, and spent the evening in festivity with ladies and gentlemen from Woodstock, Pomfret, Brooklyn, Thompson,

Sturbridge; cost 5/4. Saw most of them away, but the darkness prevented finding all the horses. . . . . called next day on Mr. Graves; drank wine and had a water-melon feast."

This festive ordination inaugurated a very serious and profitable pastorate. Mr. Graves was an earnest and devoted Christian laborer, greatly esteemed by his own people and brethren in the ministry. A fund had now been raised for the maintenance of public worship, and those who did not approve of the legal minister's rates were released upon easy terms. Collections were taken for the Connecticut Missionary Society, and four months absence was granted Mr. Graves to go on a mission among the new settlements. Church music was aided by a grand bass-viol, manipulated by Pearley Lyon and Chester May, and the singing school kept by William Flynn for one dollar per evening. Nehemiah Child had succeeded to the office of grave-digger. Alfred Walker, Amasa Lyon, Rensselaer Child, John Paine and Stephen Child were chosen in 1814 to act as superintendents of funerals.

Reverend Mr. Graves died in 1813, and was succeeded by Samuel Backus, of Canterbury, ordained January 19th, 1815. A very remarkable revival was soon experienced by the church, adding some two hundred within two years to its membership. Mr. Backus was pre-eminently a man of faith and prayer, and though moderate in discourse, made deep impression upon the heart. He organized a Bible class of seventy-five members, of whom fifty-nine came into the church at one communion. A very effective Sabbath school was begun in 1818. The deacons up to this date had been Caleb May, Nehemiah Lyon, Elisha Child, Charles Child, Aaron Lyon, Nathaniel Briggs. William Child was chosen in 1819; Luther Child in 1824. Additional funeral superintendents were Oliver Morse, Alduce Penniman, Ezra Child, William Child, Penuel May and John Fowler.

Contentions respecting the site of a projected meeting house troubled the closing years of Mr. Backus' ministry, leading to the disruption of society and church, and the erection of two church edifices. A majority of the society favoring the house built at Village Corners, the eastward residents organized as a distinct society December 26th, 1831. Their meeting house was already in progress, John Paine, Judah and Pearley Lyon, committee. The site was given by Messrs. Nehemiah and William Child. William Child, Chester May, Charles Child, Jr., James

Lamson, Oliver Morse, William and Abiel May, Caleb, Erastus and Stephen Child and Elias Mason, 2d, were added to the committee. April 25th, 1832, the house was formally dedicated, and Reverend Orson Cowles ordained as pastor. W. M. Cornell had supplied the pulpit in the interim after the dismission of Mr. Backus. During Mr. Cowles' five years' ministry remarkable revivals were enjoyed, bringing many converts into the depleted church. Mr. Boutelle's ministry (1837–1849) was marked by a great advance in benevolent contributions. Reverends James A. Clark, Michael Burdette and J. A. Roberts served for short periods.

Next followed the pastorate of Reverend Edward H. Pratt, extending from 1855 to April, 1867, so abounding in all good influences. Faithful in every detail of duty, interested in everything relating to the well being of individual or community, the promotion of temperance principles and practice was the crowning interest of Mr. Pratt's useful life. His influence, especially upon the young men of his own congregation and the children of the Sabbath school, was most vital and permanent, and has greatly strengthened the temperance standing of the town. Called to active service as the secretary of the Connecticut Temperance Union, his aid and counsel were ever given freely to town and church till his lamented death. Succeeding his ministry were the short terms of Reverends Francis Dyer, W. A. Benedict, C. A. Stone, W. H. Phipps and J. A. Hanna, extending to 1875, when the two North Woodstock parishes again united in service, each occupying its own church edifice part of the Sabbath.

The East Woodstock house has been thoroughly renovated and improved, and the singing, under Messrs. Harris May and William Child, maintains its ancient reputation. The deacon's office since 1832 has been filled by Elisha C. Walker, T. B. Chandler, Asa Lyon, Halsey Bixby, George A. Paine, Monroe W. Ide, John Paine, Edwin R. Chamberlain. Willard Child, D. D., Albert Paine and Charles Walker, D. D., have gone out from it into the ministry. The son of Doctor Walker, George L. Walker, D. D., is the well known pastor of Centre church, Hartford, Conn.

The Northward wing of the East Woodstock church took possession of its new house of worship February 10th, 1831. Its first pastor was Reverend Foster Thayer, ordained and installed the following June. During his five years' labor forty were ad-

ded to the church. His successor, Reverend L. S. Hough, continued in charge four years. Reverends Willard Child and D. C. Frost officiated until the installation of William H. Marsh November 30th, 1844, who accomplished nearly seven years' service. O. D. Hine, D. M. Elwood and John White followed in quick succession. Reverend T. H. Brown, a young man of much promise, was removed by death after a pastorate of two years. Reverend J. W. Kingsbury, installed in 1869, dismissed in 1871, was the last pastor settled by the church. Reverend W. A. James, of Killingly, served as acting pastor for four years, during which time the church edifice was destroyed by fire. Subscriptions were immediately circulated and a sufficient sum raised to repair the loss. Children of former members and generous friends helped in fitting up the new building, which was completed and dedicated in the fall of 1873. After the removal of Mr. James in 1875, the North and East churches united in support of a minister. Reverends C. N. Cate, T. M. Boss, John Parsons and C. W. Thompson, have served successively as pastors of the two societies. The present incumbent is Reverend F. H. Viets.

In its comparatively brief term of separate existence this church has had the good fortune to send out honored ministers and missionaries. Three sons of Captain John Chandler, of North Woodstock, have accomplished valuable service. Reverend John E. Chandler was sent by the American Board as missionary to India in 1846, and still labors in Madura over an extensive field. His son, Reverend John S. Chandler, and his two daughters, Henrietta and Gertrude, have also devoted themselves to mission work in Madura. Reverend Joseph Chandler served in the war as delegate from the Christian Commission, and also in Home Mission work. The third brother, Reverend Augustus Chandler, debarred from missionary work in India by delicate health, labored usefully as evangelist and stated pastor.

Methodism was introduced in West Woodstock in 1795 by that active itinerant, Jesse Lee. A class was formed at an early day and a few Methodists joined in social worship, but no substantial footing was gained until the revivals of 1829–30, when through the preaching of Elders Lovejoy, Bidwell and Robbins, many converts were gathered in and added to the class. A Methodist house of worship was built in West Woodstock and stated services instituted. Ebenezer and Elisha Paine, Thomas

Chandler, Charles Child, Benjamin Works, and a worthy band of Christian women, were active in this church. Connected successively with Dudley, Thompson and Eastford circuits, it enjoyed the ministrations of many faithful, zealous, self denying Methodist preachers—Elders Livesy, Ireson, Allen, Carter, Davis, Perrin, Pratt, names honored in wide circuits. In connection with the labors of Reverend Charles C. Barnes in 1841, an extensive revival prevailed, bringing in the whole neighborhood in the vicinity of the church. Reverend John Howson was sent by the conference in 1843 as the first stated preacher in the Methodist society, and aided much in confirming and strengthening the members. Two faithful ministers went out from the church at this date, Elders Charles Morse and Mellen Howard. Elder Morse afterward labored in adjoining towns and died a few years since greatly respected by all.

Methodist conference meetings were often held in East Woodstock village, especially in the house of Mrs. Stanley, a zealous Methodist sister, whose children were working in the factory. In 1828 a class of forty-five members was formed in the village—John Chaffee, leader; Elders H. Perry and G. Southerland, circuit preachers. Having no stated place of worship an earnest brother, Nathaniel Jones, built an addition to his house for this purpose, where many fervent meetings were enjoyed, under the guidance of some of the shining lights of Methodism. The hall of the new school house was afterward occupied by the Methodists for day-time Sabbath services. In 1847 East Woodstock was made a station, Benjamin M. Walker, preacher. Through the efficient agency of Elder Daniel Dorchester, preacher in 1851-52, the church edifice in West Woodstock was purchased, and removed to East Woodstock village. A comfortable house of worship and overflowing congregation was the happy result of his labors, greatly benefiting succeeding ministers. Elders J. D. King, Caleb S. Sandford, J. E. Heald, Culver, Boynton, S. A. Winsor, W. A. Simmons, Horace Moulton, Daniel Pratt, Mellen Howard, O. E. Thayer, L. D. Bentley, Pack, Case, Latham, Turkington, G. R. Bentley and A. H. Bennett have successively served in ministering to the East Woodstock Methodist church. One faithful minister, Reverend E. S. Stanley, has gone out from it to fulfill much useful service.

In 1854 Methodists in West Woodstock completed a new house of worship, stimulated by the presence and aid of Reverend Otis

Perrin; Luther Arnold, Lewis and Jared Corbin, Elisha Paine, William Myers, Benjamin Chandler, and other residents assisting in the work. Miss Mary Myers went out to Africa, in 1885, to aid in the missionary enterprise inaugurated by Bishop William Taylor. Marrying on the voyage another consecrated worker, they entered upon the field with much hopefulness, only to meet the fate of so many missionaries in that deadly climate. A son of Mr. Myers followed his sister in the same work. The church in West Woodstock is mainly supplied by resident local preachers, Elders Perrin, Goodell and Pratt, with S. B. Chase, having had it in charge. Some forty-two families in the town are connected with these two Methodist societies.

Universalists appeared in Woodstock toward the close of the last century, uniting with the church of Oxford. These families, with their descendants, remained apart from the standing churches of the town, attending services in other localities. A Universalist society was organized in West Woodstock in 1839, Ebenezer Philips, clerk; Adolphus Alton, treasurer; Charles Wood, George Sumner, John G. Marcy, John Fox, 2d, John Weaver, committee. Reverend Zephaniah Baker was hired as preacher. In 1842 Sanford Marcy and Luther Fox were chosen choristers; L. M. Bradford, Pitt Sharpe, Sanford Bosworth, G. Sumner, A. Alton, building committee. A house of worship was completed the following year. F. M. Fox was chosen to take care of the house and seat the people. It was voted to have the slips free. Reverend Holmes Slade was retained as preacher for a number of years. In 1859 thirty-three persons were enrolled members of this society. Zephaniah Baker, its first minister, returned to the charge in 1876. Weakened by deaths and removals, the society gradually lost ground, and its meetings were discontinued.

In 1874 an Advent Christian church was formed in West Woodstock, with fifty-six constituent members, and Reverend P. S. Butler as pastor. An Advent chapel was built in Woodstock Valley in 1879, and dedicated November 25th. A considerable number of persons, in different parts of the towns, have embraced Advent principles, and maintain religious services. An Advent chapel was also built in East Woodstock, in 1879, on land of Mr. Nathaniel Child. Reverends P. S. Butler and E. S. Bugbee have charge of these churches and services.

Religious services are conducted in behalf of the Swedes, in Agricultural Hall, and a Swedish church has been organized.

Woodstock's first post office was opened in Bowen's store in 1811, George Bowen, postmaster. Six offices are now needed, one for each separate village, viz., Woodstock, East, West, North, South Woodstock and Woodstock Valley. Convenient mail carriages convey the mail from Putnam depot to these several stations. These villages, dating back many years, enjoy varying degrees of prosperity. Some have lost by business changes and emigration; others gained by new interests. The summer element has brought new prosperity to Woodstock hill. The erection of "Roseland Cottage," by Mr. H. C. Bowen, was soon followed by the opening of Elmwood Hall, in 1862, by Messrs. Warner & Way, with ample accommodations for the "summer boarder," with his numerous household. The revivifying of the academy, and various improvements instituted by Mr. Bowen, have wrought a marvelous change in the "Plaine Hill village." Graded streets, concrete walks, tasteful dwelling houses, a shaded park and spacious common make the village one of the loveliest in Windham county, while the pure air and range of beautiful scenery are wholly unsurpassed. Summer visitors returning year after year to this favorite resort, testify to its attractions. Elmwood Hall, under the charge of its veteran proprietor—Deacon Amasa Chandler—has long been numbered among public institutions, and has been the scene of many an official and family re-union. West Woodstock village has its own especial votaries, who find perpetual charms in its verdant placidity and wide outlook, and it is becoming more and more a favorite summer resting place. The summer element is conspicuous in many new and elegant country seats in various parts of the town. Senexet road, running east of the lake, is especially favored by these summer sojourners, and boasts many of these fanciful structures. These new citizens, connected in many cases with old families of the town, promise to be an important factor in its future development.

Among modern institutions of Woodstock none has brought it into such prominence before the world as the Fourth of July celebrations inaugurated in Roseland Park by Mr. H. C. Bowen. Repeating the experience of its historic namesake, Woodstock hill has ever been celebrated for the number and variety of its notable meetings. Its trainings, funerals, belligerent town and

society meetings, its Masonic and anti-Masonic conventions, its temperance jubilees and Sabbath school celebrations, have been noted for successive generations. With the grand "Fremont Rally" of 1856 began a series of most notable political gatherings. The great Lincoln mass meeting of 1864, the great Grant mass meeting of 1868, both held on Woodstock Common, were most remarkable occasions, not only in numbers, interest and enthusiasm, but as helping to decide conflicting and vital questions.

The Fourth of July celebration in 1870 was made memorable by the presence of the president of the United States, General Grant, and his suite, with the Russian minister and other notables. Arrangements for this occasion were wholly due to Mr. H. C. Bowen, who had the honor of receiving and entertaining the distinguished guests. Securing soon after this date the beautiful grove adjoining Woodstock lake, Mr. Bowen began the laying out of the beautiful park so famous in later celebrations. July 4th, 1877, Roseland Park was formally opened with appropriate exercises. Addresses were made by Senator Blaine, ex-Governor Chamberlain, and other distinguished persons. A delightful historic poem, with appropriate patriotic prelude, was read by Doctor Oliver Wendell Holmes. Year after year these gatherings have been repeated. As the park has put on new beauty and verdure, so the programme has offered more varied attractions, until the Fourth of July celebrations at Roseland Park are known throughout the country. It would be impossible to give a full list of those who have contributed to the interest of these occasions. National celebrities in innumerable departments, presidents, cabinet officers, senators, governors, statesmen, financiers, distinguished professors and teachers, orators, lecturers, poets, literary men and women, clergymen without number, representative men and women, have appeared upon the platform at Roseland Park and discoursed upon questions of vital interest and importance. Woodstock and neighboring towns are greatly indebted to Mr. Bowen for the privilege of seeing and hearing these distinguished persons, and also for providing so delightful a spot for social and public gatherings. Saturday afternoon concerts, "Field Days" for various institutions, "Union Sabbath School picnics," family and village gatherings, have come into existence with the park, and social intercourse and healthful recreation have been greatly promoted. No bet-

ter test of progress could be cited than the substitution of such improving and elevating assemblages in this tasteful retreat, for the uproarious "training" and stilted "celebration" of other days.

Among later "Notable meetings" in Roseland Park, the republican mass meeting of September 5th, 1888, takes a high place. A county political meeting, it excited unusual interest. Pomfret, Putnam and Thompson displayed much energy in marshalling processions worthy of the occasion. The day was all that could be desired, the attendance large and the speaking excellent. Mr. Searls, of Thompson, served as chairman of the day. Hon. William M. Evarts and Mrs. J. Ellen Foster perhaps carried off the highest laurels, although all the addresses called out much enthusiasm and applause. A notable feature in the day's demonstration was the large number of veterans, eager to show their allegiance to the soldier candidate, and the presence of a veteran who assisted in the nomination of William Henry Harrison in 1840.

The anticipated visit of President Benjamin Harrison, July 4th, 1889, aroused great interest among all classes. The county appreciated as never before the distinguishing honor and privilege of receiving within her borders the highest officials of the great republic. Extensive preparations were made by Putnam and other towns for their suitable reception. All eyes and hearts were turned toward Woodstock and Roseland Park, and had the day been favorable it would probably have recorded the largest gathering ever assembled in Windham county. But rain and storm are no respecters of persons, and the lowering clouds refused to melt away. Yet, though thousands were disappointed, other thousands pluckily withstood the elements. Through the rain and heavy fog of Wednesday evening hundreds found their way to Mr. Bowen's hospitable residence, opened as usual for the reception preceding the great day. Such crowds came to see and speak to the president and his suite that one marveled where space could have been found for them had the skies been fair.

The wet July morn failed to dampen the resolution of veterans and patriots. Grand Army men in their shining new uniforms, were ready to escort the president and party to the park. The multitudes already assembled far exceeded public expectation. The address of welcome was made by Hon. Charles Russel, M. C.; prayer by Reverend E. B. Bingham; the "Day

we Celebrate" was lauded by the governor of Connecticut, Morgan G. Bulkeley, who introduced President Harrison. His graceful greeting called forth storms of applause. He was followed by General Hawley, Associate Justice Samuel F. Miller and Hon. Thomas B. Reed, M. C., of Maine. Brief addresses were also made by Secretaries Noble and Tracy. An hour's recess was passed in agreeable conversation and collation, the hundreds of veterans present being especially cared for by a generous friend, who took pains to present the president personally to each war-worn soldier. The exercises were renewed by the introduction of President Gates, of Rutgers College, when the storm, as if indignant at such defiance of its power, broke out with renewed violence. In spite of the floods of rain, the good-natured audience continued to greet and applaud the speakers and catch what was possible of the stirring addresses of Messrs. Gates and Hiscock and the sparkling poem of Will Carlton. The greatest good humor prevailed throughout the whole exercises, and all separated with the agreeable consciousness that even the "floods of great waters" could not quench patriotic enthusiasm nor seriously mar a Woodstock Fourth of July celebration.

The bi-centennial commemoration of Woodstock's settlement, the first to be observed in Windham county, was also a very notable event in its history. Preparations were going forward for some months throughout the town. An efficient committee appointed by the town—Henry T. Child, chairman—labored zealously in planning and perfecting arrangements. The change from Old to New Style brought the anniversary within the first week of September, 1886. Initiatory services were held at Pulpit Rock, Sunday morning, September 5th, attended by nearly two thousand people. After invocation, responsive reading, prayer, singing of anthem and psalm by the church choirs of the town under direction of Professor Carlo May, a greeting was given by Hon. E. H. Bugbee, followed by a sermon from Reverend John S. Chandler, Madura, India.

Monday was a day of gathering from far and near, sons and daughters of old Woodstock families returning to the old homesteads and participating in many a family reunion. In the afternoon an exhibition of antiques was held in the hall over the store, comprising many articles of rarity and value. Many of these relics had the additional interest of association with his-

toric characters. The pocket book of "grandmother Edmonds," a lace cap worn by Deacon Jedidiah Morse when an infant, a cane belonging to the last of the Wabbaquassets, were among these treasured heirlooms. The collection of portraits was very full and interesting.

The great day of the feast was Tuesday, the two hundredth anniversary of the day on which Woodstock's home lots were distributed. Memorial trees were set out in the morning on historic sites. Before 10 A. M. a large assemblage had gathered in Roseland Park. Mr. H. T. Child introduced the president of the day, Hon. J. F. Morris, Hartford, whose brief address was followed by prayer offered by Reverend J. P. Trowbridge, West Woodstock. Doctor G. A. Bowen made the address of welcome. A large number of honored citizens and returned emigrants were elected vice-presidents. An interesting historical address was given by Mr. Clarence W. Bowen, and a graphic poem read by Mr. John E. Bowen. Histories of the several churches in the town were read by Messrs. Albert McC. Mathewson, Nathan E. Morse, Reverends Luther G. Tucker and A. H. Bennett, while others prepared for the occasion were unavoidably omitted. Brethren C. H. May, G. A. Bowen and L. J. Wells, brought tidings of ancient institutions and modern organizations.

Formal services were varied by old-time singing, under charge of Mr. May, the planting of memorial trees sent with greetings from old Roxbury, public and family collations, and with interesting and humorous reminiscences in short addresses at the close. The only drawback to the day's enjoyment was the lack of time for all that might have been brought forward. The large attendance, the number of descendants from former residents, the sympathetic attention of the hearers, showed the deep interest awakened by this bi-centennial commemoration.

While Connecticut is famous for the wide dispersion of its sons and daughters, Woodstock has even exceeded the ordinary limit. Beginning soon after her own settlement to populate the towns around her, the outflow has been perennial. Vermont, New Hampshire, Central New York, the vast prairies of the West, indeed all parts of the great nation, have received emigrants from this old town. The valuable Chandler and Child genealogies show the wide dispersion of those families and the prominent part they have had in building up flourishing communities. Other families might show an equally suggestive

Ebenezer Bishop

AMTOTYPE E. DIERSTADT N. Y.

record. It is impossible to make even an approximate estimate of those who have gone out from this historic town, or to fitly chronicle those who have made themselves memorable. General William Eaton, the conqueror of Tripoli, was born in the southwest corner of Woodstock. Commodore Charles Morris, so distinguished in naval service, was also born in West Woodstock. The Morse's, with their telegraphs and varied achievements; the Holmes's, whom even Boston delighteth to honor, date back to Woodstock ancestry. The same good stock has given to the world representative Marcys, McClellans, Mathewsons, Childs, Lyons, Chandlers, Mays, Bowens, Walkers, Skinners, Paines, Williams's, and many other honored names. Fitted for various walks in life, in every sphere of avocation and achievement, may be found the sons and daughters of Woodstock. The subjoined biographical sketches are but a tithe in comparison with the great number that might have been included.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

Ebenezer Bishop.—The grandfather of the subject of this biography was Ebenezer Bishop, a native of Lisbon, Conn., who removed in later life to North Woodstock, where he engaged in the practice of medicine until his death in October, 1834. He married Sarah Lyon, whose six children were: Amasa, Hezekiah, Elisha, Ebenezer, Tabitha and Delia. Hezekiah, of this number, was born December 2d, 1804, in North Woodstock, where he engaged in farming and participated actively in the affairs of the town until his death, which occurred in 1863. He married Martha D., daughter of Captain Judah Lyon, a citizen of much prominence in his day. The children of this union were: Sarah L., Ebenezer, Anna M. and Esther E.

Ebenezer, the only son, was born February 19th, 1841, in North Woodstock, where his early years were mainly spent. He became a pupil of the Woodstock and Plainfield Academies, and completed his studies at the State Normal school, after which for a brief period he engaged in teaching. In 1861, on the call of the government for troops for the suppression of the rebellion, he left his duties on the farm and enrolled his name as a member of the First Connecticut Cavalry, continuing for three years in the service. He experienced all the trying vicissitudes of a soldier's life, and participated in the following en-

gagements: Second Battle of Bull Run, Cross Keys, Cedar Mountain, Leesburg, Chantilly, Culpepper Court House, South Mountain, Port Republic and Waterford, where he was made a prisoner. He served a term of nearly sixteen months as prisoner in the stockade prison at Andersonville, and in Savannah, Millen, Libby and at Belle Isle. During the seven months of his incarceration at Andersonville he endured all the privations and horrors inflicted upon the Union prisoners by the infamous Captain Wirtz, and witnessed daily the death of one hundred and fifty or more men, from hunger, exposure and cruelty. His rugged constitution enabled him to survive these horrors and effect an exchange, after which he returned to his home and has since been engaged in farming.

Mr. Bishop as a republican represented his town in the Connecticut legislature in 1872. He has been interested in the cause of education and was for several years acting school visitor. He has also been for a long period justice of the peace, and participated actively in the affairs of the town. He is a member of A. G. Warner Post, No. 54, Grand Army of the Republic, and one of the present delegates from Connecticut to the national convention to be held at Milwaukee. Mr. Bishop is a member of the Third Congregational church of Woodstock and has for many years been on the society committee, and the committee on supplies.

Abel Child.—Benjamin Child emigrated from Great Britain to America in 1630, and became the head of most of the families of that name. A type of character patriarchal in the best sense, earnest in purpose, and in the promotion of that Puritanic stamp of piety for which the Massachusetts settlers were distinguished, he was one of the thirty who contributed toward the erection of the first church in Roxbury. Bearing the name of the youngest son of the head of the Israelites, like that patriarch, "in the land wherein he was a stranger," he became the father of twelve children, three of whom were baptized by the renowned John Eliot, their pastor.

Benjamin, the second son of Benjamin and Mary Child, married in 1683, Grace, daughter of Deacon Edward and Grace Bett Morris, Mr. Morris being one of the projectors and an early settler of the town of Woodstock. Their eldest son Ephraim, married in 1710, Priscilla Harris, of Brookline, Mass. The second son by the latter union was Daniel, who married Ruth Curtis,

Abel Child

ARTOTYPE, E. BIERSTADT, N. Y.

and became the father of Abel Child, whose wife was Rebecca Allard. Stephen, one of the sons by the latter marriage, was united to Abigail Carter, of Dudley, Mass., and had seven children, of whom Elizabeth married Reverend Lucian Burleigh, of Plainfield; Caroline married William Chandler, of Woodstock; Abby became Mrs. Ashley Mills, of Thompson, and Harriet married Harris May, of Woodstock. Mrs. Stephen Child died in her ninety-seventh year, with her mental faculties but slightly impaired. Though for several years entirely blind, her patience and cheerfulness never deserted her. She possessed a strong mind, remarkable executive ability, and was for more than sixty years a member of the church and highly esteemed for her consistent life. Stephen Child was one of those citizens of East Woodstock who vigorously advocated temperance principles and banished from his home all alcoholic drinks. A man of strict integrity, his word was proverbially as good as his bond.

His son, Abel Child, was born in East Woodstock, July 27th, 1821, where he has during his life been an influential and useful citizen of the town, and foremost in all projects tending to its advancement. A member of the First Congregational church of Woodstock, he was chosen a deacon in 1862, and still holds that office. An earnest patron of education, he has long been a trustee of the Woodstock Academy, and for many years chairman of the board. Together with Mr. Henry C. Bowen he personally solicited subscriptions for a large part of the endowment fund of the academy, and in 1872 for the present building. Mr. Child cast his first vote with the free soil party, being one of twenty-four who thus cast their ballots. He has since affiliated with the republican party, and represented his town in the Connecticut legislature, besides filling various less important offices. He is now president and superintendent of the Woodstock Creamery.

Mr. Child married, April 2d, 1851, Ellen M., daughter of Hezekiah Bugbee and Jemima Harding, and a descendant of Edward Bugbee, of Roxbury, Mass., and John Holmes, one of the earliest settlers in the town. Their children are: Clarence Harding, born May 14th, 1855; Charles Carter, whose birth occurred September 30th, 1861, and his death September 12th, 1866; Ellen Maria, born May 16th, 1866; and Herbert Chauncey, born December 18th, 1868, who died March 12th, 1872. Clarence Hard-

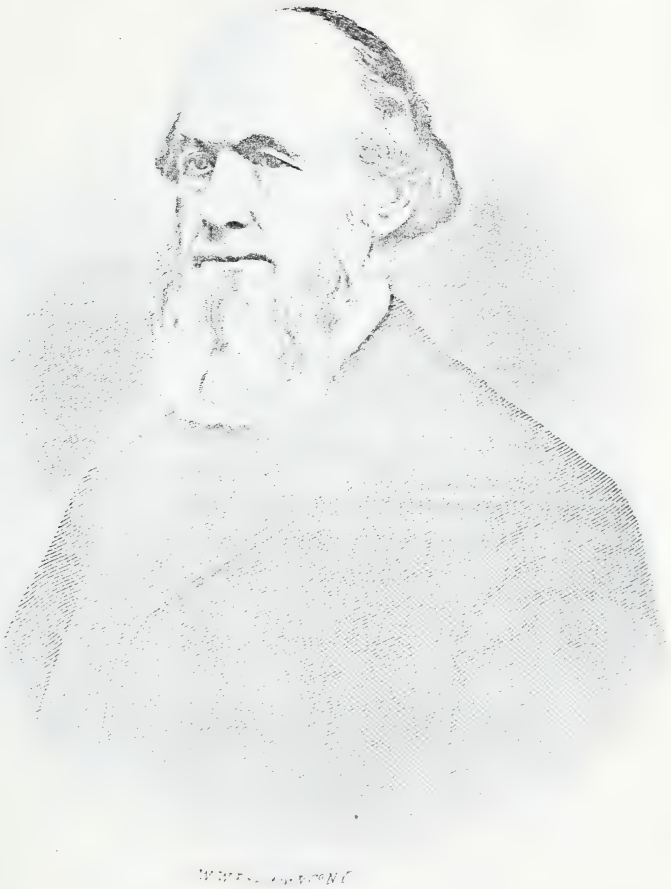
ing Child married on the 25th of May, 1881, Carrie I., daughter of James I. Slade, of Pomfret. They have two sons: Chauncey Slade, born February 1st, 1885, and Spencer Holmes, whose birth occurred November 5th, 1886. These children represent the ninth generation in both the Child and Bugbees families, and the seventh now living on the Bugbee ancestral land, which has been deeded only in the direct line of descent.

Ezra Dean was born in Killingly, Connecticut, on the 31st of August, 1813, and when twelve years of age, on the death of his father, came to Woodstock to reside with an uncle, who was then engaged in the business of a tanner and currier. He attended the nearest school for one or more years and then entered the tannery, with the intention of learning the trade. On the death of his relative he purchased the tannery, in connection with a small farm, and there resided until his death, December 7th, 1871.

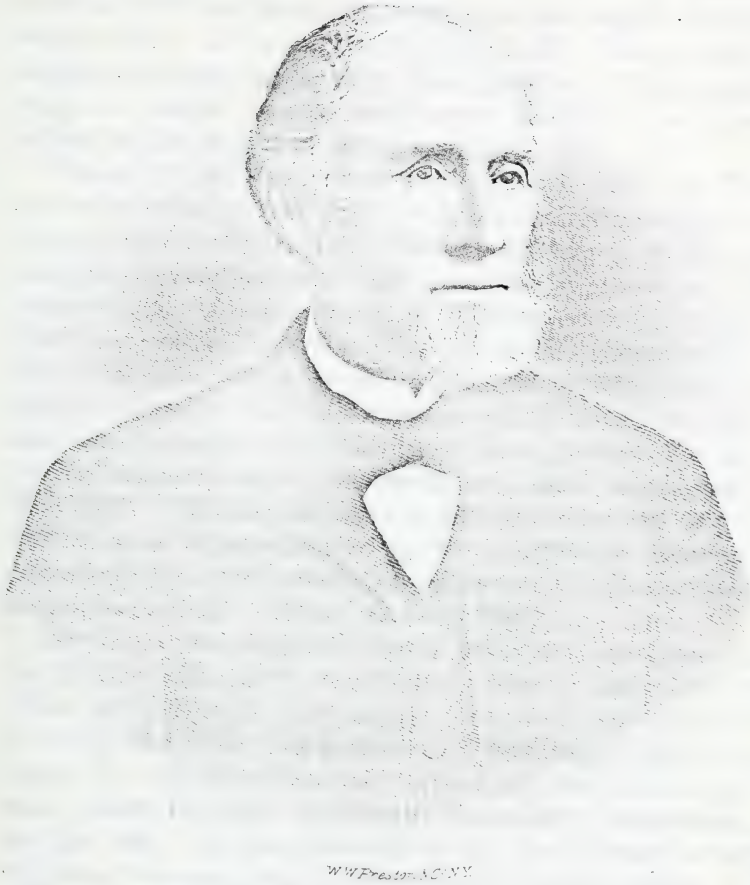
Mr. Dean evinced much ability and forethought in the management of his business, and soon established it on a firm and successful basis. He was a liberal and public spirited citizen, contributing his means and lending his influence to most of the worthy objects that appealed to his generosity. He was faithful in discharge of both public and private trusts, making integrity and probity ruling principles in his life. He was one of the foremost contributors to Woodstock Academy, and to many other worthy projects. Mr. Dean represented his town in the state house of representatives in 1850, and was elected to the senate for the years 1852 and 1853. In 1861 he filled the office of state treasurer. He was appointed by President Lincoln collector of internal revenue in 1864, and the following year voluntarily resigned the office on account of failing health. He was again elected to the legislature in 1869. He was also a director of the First National Bank, of Putnam.

Mr. Dean, on the 13th of December, 1837, married Pamelia B., daughter of Charles Hobbs, of Sturbridge, Mass. He was a member of the East Woodstock Congregational church, with which Mrs. Dean continues active and useful relations.

Marquis Green.—Thomas Green, the progenitor of the Green family in America, came from England in 1635, and settled in Malden, Mass. His son Henry, born in 1638, married in 1671, Esther Hasse. Among their seven children was a son Henry, born in 1672, who maried in 1695, Hannah Flagg. Their son



Ezra Dean



Marquis Green

Henry, the third of the name, born in 1696, married Judith ———, and resided in Killingly. A son John by this marriage, born in 1736, one of six children, was the father of Benjamin, whose birth occurred March 11th, 1766. He married Tamer Moffat, to whom were born four children. By a second marriage to Esther Jewett were seven children, the youngest of whom is the subject of this biography.

Marquis Green was born January 19th, 1816, in Thompson, where he attended the public schools and concluded his studies at the academy at Millbury, Mass. At the age of seventeen he learned the carpenter's trade, and for a period of thirty-five years was actively employed in this department of industry. In 1848 his present home in Woodstock was purchased, to which, after a life of activity, he retired in 1868, and has since that date been engaged in the improvement of the property. Mr. Green has been to some extent identified with public life. In politics he was formerly an old line whig, and later joined the republican ranks. He has officiated as selectman of his town, and in 1871 was its representative in the legislature, serving on the committee on constitutional amendments. He was one of the incorporators of the Putnam Savings Bank.

Mr. Green was married August 26th, 1840, to Clara G., daughter of David Goddard, of Millbury, Mass. Both Mr. and Mrs. Green worship with the Congregational church of Woodstock, of which the latter is a member. Their only child, a son, Clarendon M., was born February 18th, 1844, and at the age of eighteen joined the 18th Regiment, Connecticut volunteers, during the late war. He participated in all the battles in which his regiment was engaged, until wounded at the battle of Kernstown, near Winchester, Va. On his discharge he learned the carpenter's trade and succeeded to his father's business. He married Virgelia, daughter of James I. Sawyer, of Woodstock, and has three children: Justin Sawyer, born October 21st, 1869; Clara Sophia, March 15th, 1874, and James Marquis, January 31st, 1879.

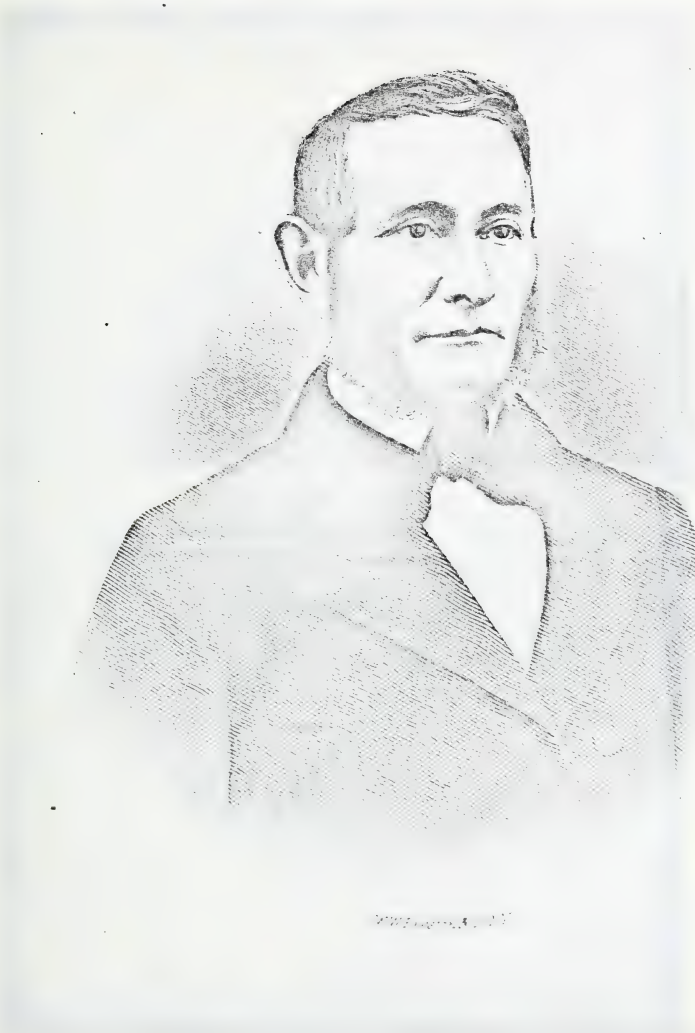
William Lyon, 4th.—The progenitor of the Lyon family in Connecticut was William Lyon, born in 1675, who when fourteen years of age, came with an uncle to Woodstock and settled on the homestead farm now owned by Mrs. William Lyon and Mrs. Emma Lyon Frink. William Lyon, his eldest son, born in 1700, was the father of eight children, of whom Elijah, born

in 1727, had among his children a son William, born November 11th, 1778, who was the father of William 4th, the subject of this biography, born October 7th, 1801. His birthplace was the homestead farm, which has passed by inheritance into the hands the eldest son in the successive generations of the family since it was first acquired.

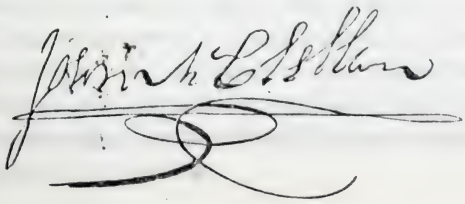
Mr. Lyon received a common school education and was early made familiar with the details of a farmer's life by his father, with the hope that he would succeed to his calling. The bent of his son's mind lay in the direction of a trade, and the skill with which he, unaided, erected the frame and built a barn on the farm, decided his fate as a carpenter and master builder. This trade he followed with great success for many years, his services having been in general demand in both town and county.

On the 31st of October, 1832, when thirty-one years of age, he married Harriet, daughter of Benjamin Green, of Thompson. Their children are a daughter Emma, Mrs. Frink, and a son Origen, who entered the army during the late war, was in several engagements and died from disease contracted during his period of service. William Lyon on his marriage built and removed to the dwelling now occupied by Marquis Green, where for fourteen years he resided. He then returned to the homestead, where his death occurred February 9th, 1859. He was actively interested in the political issues of the day, and as a whig was elected to the legislature and to various important offices in the town. He possessed mature judgment, a fund of strong common sense, and was highly esteemed as an influential citizen. In early years Mr. Lyon united with the Baptist church, of what was known as Quasset.

John McClellan.—General Samuel McClellan, the father of the subject of this biography, was born in the town of Worcester, Massachusetts, January 4th, 1730, his parents having emigrated from Kircudbright, on the Firth of Solway, in Scotland. In the French war he served as an ensign and lieutenant of a company, during which service he was wounded. On his return from the provincial campaign he purchased a farm in Woodstock, and there married and settled. At a later date he engaged in mercantile business and established an extensive trade, not only importing his own goods but supplying other merchants as well. The war of the revolution, however, ended his commer-



Wm. Lyon Esq.



cial projects and enlisted his interest in the training and equipment of the militia of the county. A fine troop of horse was raised in the towns of Woodstock, Pomfret and Killingly, of which he took command. He rose by successive promotions until commissioned, in 1784, brigadier general of the 5th Brigade, Connecticut militia. In 1776 his regiment was ordered into service, and stationed in and about New Jersey. He was earnestly solicited by General Washington to join the continental army and tendered an important commission, but his domestic and business affairs necessitated a refusal of this offer. Immediately after the invasion and burning of New London and massacre at Fort Groton, he was appointed to the command of the troops stationed at those points, and thus continued until the close of the war. When not in active service he was employed as commissary in the purchase and forwarding of provisions for the army.

On the close of the conflict General McClellan returned to his mercantile pursuits, but soon abandoned them for the management of his extensive landed possessions. He was esteemed as a Christian gentleman, and honored by his townsmen with many important offices. In 1757 he married Jemima Chandler, a descendant of one of the earliest settlers of Woodstock, who had one daughter and three sons. He married a second time in 1766, Rachel Abbe, of Windham, whose children were three daughters and five sons.

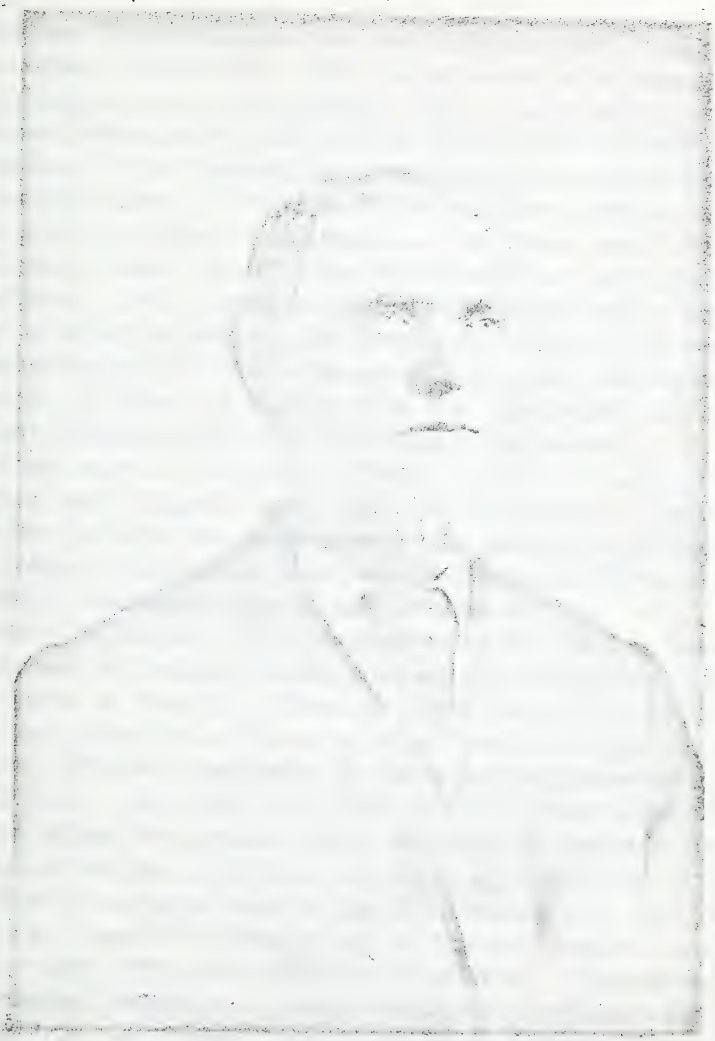
His son John, the subject of this biography and the eldest child by his second union, was born on the 4th of January, 1767, in Woodstock, and fitted for college under the late Reverend Eliphalet Lyman. He entered Yale College in 1781, and received his first degree from that institution in 1785. He then removed to Norwich for the purpose of prosecuting the study of law under Governor Huntington, and later under Charles Church Chandler, Esq. He was admitted to the bar of Windham county in August, 1787, and at once began the practice of his profession in Woodstock, where he continued thereafter to reside.

Mr. McClellan came very early into public life in the government of his native state, and was for a period of twenty years, with some intervals of retirement, a member of the Connecticut legislature. He in most of the debates wielded a commanding influence, his animation, perfect good temper, and brief speeches, often seasoned by a vein of humor and anecdote, always securing respectful attention.

In his own town and county he enjoyed a wide ascendency, both in secular and ecclesiastical affairs. His sound practical judgment and knowledge of business made him frequently an umpire in important matters, and the people were drawn to him both by their confidence in his integrity and wisdom and the invariable kindness of his manner. To the humblest individual he was attentive and conciliating, and benevolent to an extent that often subjected him to serious losses. In the family and the social circle the sunshine of a cheerful spirit always shone about him, nor was it long clouded even by disaster and sorrow. An intelligent reader and an enlightened conversationalist, his intercourse through life was chiefly with the cultivated and refined classes of society, though never forgetful of the courtesy due the poor and humble. He was a most perfect example of the Christian gentleman of the old school, among whom politeness was both a sentiment and a habit.

On the 22d of November, 1796, Mr. McClellan married Miss Faith Williams, daughter of Honorable William Williams, of Lebanon, Connecticut, whose mother was a daughter of the elder Governor Trumbull. Their children were: Mary Trumbull, who married Isaac Webb, and died in 1836; Faith Williams, wife of Rufus Mathewson, now residing with her daughter, Mrs. Alexander Warner, at Pomfret; Sarah Isabella, wife of Isaac Webb, and afterward married to Professor Benjamin Silliman, of Yale College, who died in 1875; Jane Calhoun, wife of Jonathan Weaver, now residing in Danielsonville; and two sons, John and Joseph, of Woodstock. The death of Mr. McClellan occurred on the 1st of August, 1858, at his home in Woodstock.

Charles Harris May.—Stephen May, the great-grandfather of Charles Harris May, first settled upon the homestead farm in Woodstock, which he bequeathed to his son Ephraim, familiarly known as "Captain Ephraim," who married Abigail Chandler. Their children were: Seth, Asa, Mary, Eliza, Julia and Henrietta. Asa May was born on the homestead farm now owned by the subject of this biographical sketch, where his life was spent as a farmer. He was an influential citizen, active in public affairs, possessing rare executive ability, and highly esteemed for his intellectual gifts and his exemplary character. He was an earnest Mason and much interested in that order. He married Sally, daughter of John May, and had children: Elizabeth, widow of Emerson Rawson; Charles Harris, Ezra C. and Carlo.



C H May

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Mr. May's death occurred in 1830, at the early age of thirty-seven.

His son, Charles Harris, was born September 2d, 1823, on the farm where he resides. He enjoyed some advantages at the public school and at the academy, but is more indebted to his studious habits and careful reading than to other causes for an education. His life work has been that of an industrious and successful farmer. He has been more or less active in town affairs, filled the office of selectman of the town, and held other positions of trust. In 1854 he was elected to the Connecticut legislature. He is a member of the Woodstock Agricultural Society, of which he was for two years president, and has been for the same length of time a member of the state board of agriculture. Mr. May is a supporter of the Congregational church of East Woodstock, of which his wife is a member.

He was married March 13th, 1856, to Harriet F., daughter of Stephen and Abigail Carter Child of Woodstock. Their children are: Julia A., deceased; Charles H., married to Nellie Brayton; Herbert, married to Lena Ivons of Mystic, Conn.; Asa L.; Marion F., deceased; John S. and Everett E.

Joseph M. Morse.—The progenitor of the Morse family in Woodstock is Anthony Morse, who, on his emigration to America, settled in Newbury, Mass., in 1635, and died in 1686. His son, Deacon Benjamin Morse, born in March, 1640, married Ruth Sawyer. His son, Benjamin, Jr., born in 1668, married Susannah Merrill. Their son, Abel, was united in marriage to Grace Parker, whose son, Doctor Parker Morse, A.M., married Hannah Huse, and became the father of eight children, one of whom was Abel Morse, who married Sarah Holbrook, and had twelve children. Leonard Morse, a son by the latter union, was born October 27th, 1770, and resided in Woodstock. He married Remembrance, daughter of Joseph Meacham, to whom were born six children, as follows: Albert (deceased), Nathan, Nelson, Stephen, Joseph M. and Charles D.

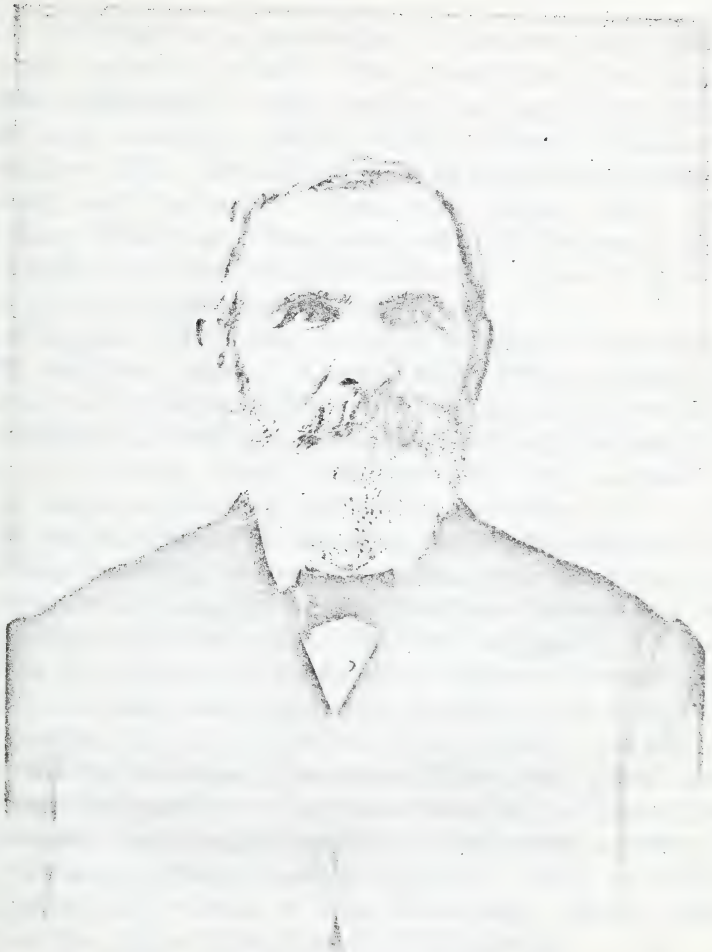
Joseph M. Morse, the subject of this biography, and the fifth son of Leonard and Remembrance Morse, was born in Woodstock, April 1st, 1823, and educated at the common schools. He until the age of seventeen, assisted at the work of the farm, and then learned the carriage maker's trade, which he followed for several years, first in Woodstock and later in Wilmington, N.C., Bowling Green, Ky., and elsewhere. In 1862 he responded to

the call of the government for troops to suppress the rebellion, and joined the Twenty-sixth regiment, Connecticut Volunteers, for a period of one year. He served with the Banks expedition, in the Department of the Gulf, and participated in the fights at Port Hudson, May 27th and June 14th, his regiment doing good service in both engagements. Mr. Morse, on abandoning his trade, turned his attention to farming, and in 1873 removed to his present home in Woodstock, where his attention is given chiefly to the cultivation of his land.

He has meanwhile not been unmindful of the public interests, and identified himself with the political measures of the day. He has been selectman, assessor and a member of the board of relief. In the year 1871 he represented his town in the Connecticut house of representatives. He is one of the directors of the National Bank of Webster, Mass., and an incorporator of two savings banks.

Mr. Morse was on the 11th of December, 1873, married to Lucy, daughter of Abiel May, of Woodstock, the latter being a son of Captain William May and a grandson of Thomas May, all of Woodstock. George A. May, a brother of Mrs. Morse, joined the army during the late rebellion as a member of Company D, Eighteenth Connecticut Volunteers, and participated in many important battles. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph M. Morse are a daughter, Florence May, and a son, Arthur George.

The brothers of Mr. Morse are deserving of mention as enterprising and successful men. Albert, a progressive farmer, occupied the ancestral land in East Woodstock, where he ranked as a foremost citizen; Nathan has been much of his life engaged in the manufacture of sash, doors and blinds, and recently purchased a valuable mill privilege in Woodstock, to which his attention is now given; Nelson was formerly a carriage manufacturer, but at present devotes his time to the cultivation of a valuable farm; he has held various town offices, been county commissioner, member of the legislature and is active and efficient in public matters; Stephen owns and cultivates the farm on which his father formerly resided, has represented his town in the state legislature and been otherwise prominent in public affairs; Charles D., a resident of Millbury, Mass., is an extensive manufacturer of builders' materials, including sash, doors, blinds, etc., is one of the most influential residents of his town, has filled various local offices, and represented his constituents



Joseph M. Morse

AUTOTYPE, E. HIERSTADT, N. Y.

in the state legislature, and is president of the National Bank of Millbury.

NATHAN E. MORSE is a descendant of Anthony Morse mentioned in the preceding sketch. His grandfather, Abel Morse, married Sarah Holbrook. Their son Nathan, born October 14th, 1785, was twice married; first in 1822, to Rebecca Child, and second to Mary Mills. By his first wife he had three children—Abel, George and Nathan E. Abel, born August 20th, 1823, married Mary Elliott, of Thompson, and died February 25th, 1858. George, born May 19th, 1825, married Sylvia C. May, of Woodstock, and is county commissioner.

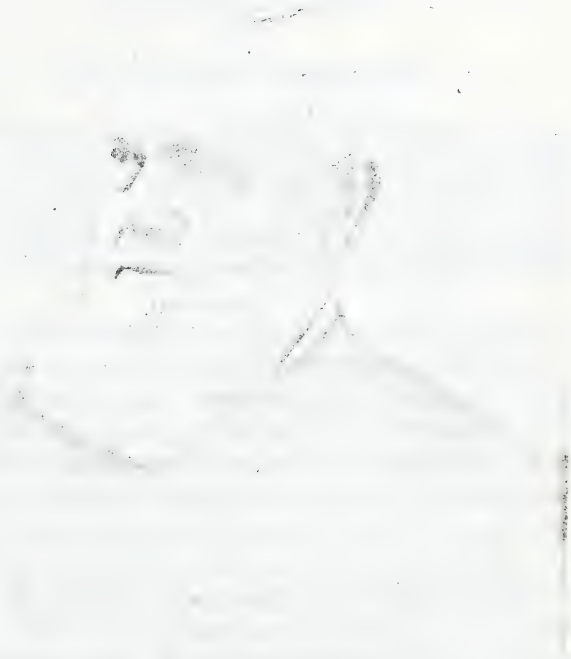
Nathan Eugene Morse was born in Woodstock November 12th, 1829, and was married August 29th, 1850, to Sarah B., daughter of John Fowler, of Woodstock. They have had three children—Susie E., born June 14th, 1855, wife of Nathaniel G. Williams, of Brooklyn, Conn., and two who died in infancy Nathan E. Morse received an academical education, and at the age of 18 years engaged in teaching, which he followed for several winters, working on the farm in summer. At 20 years of age he commenced farming on the Jonathan Carpenter farm, continuing there for five years. He then engaged in mercantile pursuits for six years, and has since followed farming, and during this time has been engaged in the mail contracting business and lumbering. In politics he is a republican. He has settled many estates, has been a member of the school board twenty years, assessor, member of the board of relief, selectman, justice of the peace many years, member of legislature in 1883, and trustee of Putnam Savings Bank seven years. He is deacon of the Congregational church of East Woodstock, and has been secretary of the Agricultural Society of Woodstock.

OLIVER H. PERRY.—Judge Perry's ancestors first settled in Massachusetts, his grandfather, Daniel Perry, having removed when a young man from Rehoboth, in that state, to Woodstock, where he became the owner of a valuable farm and the breeder of choice stock, which he shipped to the West Indies.

He married Judith Hunt, of Rehoboth, whose children were: John, Otis, Daniel, Judith, Sally and Nancy. Otis, of this number, was a native of West Woodstock, where, with the exception of a brief period in Greenfield, he engaged in the varied pursuits of miller and farmer. He married Polly, daughter of Chester Carpenter, of the same town. Two of their children died in

youth. A daughter, Mary W., first married to Chester A. Paine and now the wife of Waldo Phillips, and a son, Oliver H., are the survivors. The latter was born July 7th, 1821, in Greenfield, Mass., and removed at the age of two years, with his parents, to Woodstock. The district school and an academy at Wilbraham, Mass., afforded the opportunity for a common English education, after which he began work on the farm, and with the exception of two years spent as clerk, continued thus occupied until 1854. His father, in 1844, on retiring from active labor, gave him a deed of the homestead farm, in consideration of the filial care bestowed upon his parents in their declining years. In 1854 Judge Perry sold the property and removed to New York city, where he embarked in the flour and feed business, and was for eleven years a member of the firm of Phillips & Perry. In 1865, having purchased his present home, he settled again in Woodstock, where he has since been largely identified with local affairs.

Judge Perry in early days was an avowed abolitionist, and has always voted either the whig or republican ticket. He was at the beginning of his political career elected a justice of the peace, and in 1854 represented his town in the Connecticut house of representatives. He again served as justice, and in 1880 was made judge of probate for the district of Woodstock, which office he now fills. He is a director of the Putnam Savings Bank, treasurer of the Woodstock Creamery Corporation, and was one of the committee to purchase land and erect the buildings of the Woodstock Agricultural Association, of which he was for two years president and treasurer. His ability and judgment make his services invaluable in the settlement of estates and in kindred offices of trust. His religious belief is that of the Second Adventist church, with which he worships. Judge Perry was married September 24th, 1844, to Miss Mary Ann, daughter of Deacon Laban Underwood, of West Woodstock.



Oliver H Perry

ARTOTYPE, E. BIERSTADT, N. Y.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

THE TOWN OF KILLINGLY.

Location and Description.—Original Killingly.—The Whetstone Country.—First Proprietors.—Attempts at Settlement.—Bounds and Claims.—Settlers and Settlement.—The Town Organized.—Localities.—Counterfeiters.—General Progress.—Taking Care of the Poor.—Highways.—Early Manufacturing.—Prosperity of Manufacturing Interests.—The Gospel Ministry.—Meeting House Controversy.—The Second Society formed.—South Killingly Church.

THE town of Killingly lies in the eastern central part of Windham county, on the Rhode Island border. In territory, population and business importance it is one of the largest towns of the county. Its territory, which originally embraced the whole northeast corner of Connecticut east of tbe Quinebaug and north of Plainfield, has been diminished by the formation of Thompson and Putnam in part from its territory. It is bounded by Putnam on the north, Rhode Island on the east, Sterling and Plainfield on the south, and Brooklyn and Pomfret on the west. Much of its surface is hilly and but moderately adapted to agriculture. It is well drained by the Assawaga or Five Mile river and its tributary, the Whetstone branch, and the Quinebaug, into which the former empties. The last named stream forms its entire western boundary. These waters afford power for a number of mills and manufacturing concerns, this town being one of the large manufacturing towns of the county. Alexander's Lake, a handsome sheet of water a mile in length by a half mile in breadth, lies in the northwest part, and Chaubunagungamaug pond, a narrow body a mile and a half long, lies near the eastern border. The town is about nine miles long from north to south, and an average width of six miles from east to west. Thus it has an area of about fifty-four square miles. The Norwich & Worcester railroad runs along its western border the length of the town. The post offices of Danielsonville, Ballouville, Killingly, East Killingly and South Killingly are in this town. A small part of the borough of Danielsonville extends

into the limits of Brooklyn, otherwise the borough lies in this town. The factory villages of Attawaugan and Williamsville are in this town. The population of the town at different periods has been—in 1756, 2,100; in 1775, 3,486; in 1800, 2,279; in 1840, 3,685; in 1870, 5,712; in 1880, 6,921. The grand list was—in 1775, £27,907; in 1800, $41,027; in 1845, $35,727; in 1847, $38,809; in 1857, $44,938; in 1887, $2,144,153.

The original township of Killingly was laid out north of Plainfield in 1708. It occupied the northeastern corner of Connecticut, in the wild border land between the Quinebaug and Rhode Island. This region, called the Whetstone country, was known to the white settlers of the surrounding towns, but was for a long time neglected. It was owned by the colony of Connecticut and not by individuals or companies, and tracts of it were given by the government in recognition of civil or military services rendered it. Its first white proprietors were thus the leading men of the colony. Governors Haynes, Treat and Saltonstall; Majors Fitch and Mansfield; the Reverend Messrs. Hooker, Pierpont, Whiting, Buckingham, Andrews, Noyes, Woodbridge and Russel; the Hons. Giles Hamlin, Matthew Allen and Caleb Stanley, had grants of land here and were associated with the early history of Killingly. The grant to Governor Haynes was given as early as 1642, that to the Reverend John Whiting in 1662, but the greater number at a later period. These grants were not located, but simply conveyed a specified quantity of land to be selected by the grantee according to his pleasure, so long as it did not "prejudice any particular township or former grant."

The first to take possession of land in the Whetstone country under these grants were Major James Fitch and Captain John Chandler. A grant of "fifteen hundred acres, to be taken up together and lyeing beyond New Roxbury, near the northeast corner of the Colony line," was confirmed to Major Fitch by the general court, in October, 1690. With his usual dispatch and discrimination, Fitch at once selected and had laid out to him the best land in the whole section—the interval between the Quinebaug and the Assawaga, extending from their junction at Acquiunk to Lake Mashapaug, and also the valley east of the Assawaga, as far north as Whetstone brook. Captain John Chandler of Woodstock, was next in the field, buying up land granted to soldiers for services in the Narragansett war. Two

hundred acres purchased by him from Lieutenant Hollister were laid out at Nashaway, the point of land between the Quinebaug and French rivers, and confirmed to him by the general court in 1691. A great part of the valley land adjoining French river, and a commanding eminence two miles east of the Quinebaug, then known as Rattlesnake hill, afterward Killingly hill, were speedily appropriated by Captain Chandler. The other grantees, less familiar with the country, and less experienced in land grabbing, found more difficulty in taking up their grants. The country was not easy to explore. Lack of roads, swelling streams, deep marshes, tangled forests and refractory Indians, all conspired to make the task of locating land claims at that time particularly laborious and hazardous. The Reverend Samuel Andrews succeeded in having his grant of two hundred acres laid out in 1692, west of Rattlesnake hill, bounded on three sides by wilderness.

The first white settler, as far as is known, came to Killingly in 1693. He was Richard Evans from Rehoboth. He had purchased of the Reverend James Pierpont a two hundred acre grant, for twenty pounds. Little is known of him, and the bounds of his farm cannot now be identified. It was in what was subsequently called the South Neighborhood of Thompson, and is now included in Putnam. In those early days his establishment served as a landmark, by which many other purchases were located.

In 1694 Reverend Noadiah Russel secured two hundred acres five miles southeast of Woodstock, east of the Quinebaug, "lands that bound it not taken up." In 1695 seventeen hundred acres, scattered about on Five Mile river, southeast from Evans', were confirmed to James Fitch, Moses Mansfield, Reverend Mr. Buckingham and Samuel Rogers. This was "the wild land in Killingly," afterward granted by Major Fitch to Yale College. Indian troubles interfered with further movements toward settlement, and Evans was probably the only settler here before the close of that century. When peace with the Indians was established, land speculation began here again. This valley of the Quinebaug, extending from the Great Falls, now in Putnam, to Lake Mashapaug, was then known as Aspinock, and had attracted the attention of Woodstock men, who saw value in it. Turpentine was gathered in large quantities from its numerous pine trees by that enterprising trader, James Corbin.

While engaged in this work in his employ, Joseph Leavens, a young man, was one day bitten on the thumb by a rattlesnake. There being no help near, the young man coolly chopped off the bitten thumb with his axe, and then killed the snake. His life was saved, but his thumb was lost, and in after years the Indians gave him the nickname, "Old One-thumb." In 1699 Reverend Russel sold his land to Peter and Nathaniel Aspinwall, Samuel Perrin and Benjamin Griggs, for twenty pounds. Lieutenant Aspinwall then settled on the land, a mile southeast of the falls.

In 1703 Aspinwall bought of Caleb Stanley two hundred acres south of Mashapaug lake. The land adjoining it westward and extending to the Quinebaug was laid out to Thomas Buckingham, and sold by him to Captain John Sabin of Mashamoquet, whose daughter Judith, married young Joseph Leavens, and received this beautiful valley farm as her marriage portion. James and Peter Leavens bought up land grants and also settled in this vicinity. Other settlers soon followed. These settlers, the pioneers of Killingly, located on or near the Quinebaug, mostly between the falls and Mashapaug lake, on the land called Aspinock, at distances of three, four and five miles from Woodstock. As details of the settlement of those parts of original Killingly which are now included in Thompson and Putnam are given in connection with the history of those towns, it will be unnecessary to repeat them further in this connection. We shall therefore confine our review now as far as practicable to the territory of the present town of Killingly.

The first settler south of Lake Mashapaug was James Danielson, of Block Island, who in 1707 purchased of Major Fitch "the neck of land" between the Quinebaug and Assawaga rivers, for a hundred and seventy pounds. Mr. Danielson had served in the Narragansett war, and his name appears on the list of officers and soldiers who received the township of Voluntown in recompense for their services. Tradition tells us that he passed through the Whetstone country on an expedition against the Nipmucks, and stopping to rest his company on the interval between these rivers, was so well pleased with the locality that he then declared that when the war should be ended he would settle there. Nothing more is known of him until thirty years later, when he bought the land from the junction of the rivers, "extending up stream to the middle of the long interval." Tradition adds that he first traded with the natives, receiving for a

trifle all that he could see from the top of a high tree, but found that Major Fitch had forestalled him, so then he bought out his claim. Mr. Danielson at once took possession of his purchase, built a garrison house near its southern extremity and was soon known as one of the most prominent men in the new settlement. No other settler appeared in this vicinity for several years. The land south from Acquiunk—the name given by the Indians to this locality—was held by Plainfield proprietors, under their purchase from Owaneco, and no attempt was made for many years to bring it into market.

The settlers in this locality were few in number, but their remoteness from the seat of government and independent mode of settlement made the organization of a town government very desirable. Their deeds of land transfer had to be recorded in Hartford, Plainfield and Canterbury. In May, 1708, the assembly granted town privileges to the people here, the patent of which set forth the bounds as follows: "Northerly on the line of the Massachusetts Province (it being by estimation about) five miles from the line between this Colony and the Colony of Rhode Island and the river called Assawaug; easterly on the said line between the said colonies; southerly, partly on the northern boundary of Plainfield and partly on a line to be continued east from the northeast corner bounds of Plainfield to the said line between the said Colonies; the said northern boundary of Plainfield being settled by order of the General Court, May the 11th, 1699, and westerly on the aforesaid river; the said township being by estimation about eight or nine miles in length and five or six miles in breadth, be the same more or less." The men named in the patent, as representing the proprietors, were Colonel Robert Treat, Major James Fitch, Captain Dan Wetherell, Joseph Haynes, Samuel Andrew, George Denison, James Danielson, David Jacobs, Samuel Randall, Peter Aspinwall and Joseph Cady.

Grantees now hastened to take up their lands and sell them to settlers, so that population increased much more rapidly than in the richer neighborhoods owned by corporations and large land-holders. The land north of Danielson's, extending from the middle of "the long interval" to Lake Mashapaug, was conveyed by Major Fitch to John, Nathaniel and Nicholas Mighill; a farm east of the lake was sold to John Lorton; David Church, of Marlborough, and William Moffat settled in the Quinebaug

valley, adjoining James Leavens. Many grants were bought up by Nicholas Cady north of Rattlesnake hill, in the neighborhood of Richard Evans, and sold by him to George Blanchard, of Lexington, Thomas Whitmore, William Price, John and Samuel Winter, John Bartlett, William Robinson and others, who at once took possession of this northern extremity of the town.

The claimants of lands within the bounds of original Killingly having located, described and recorded their lands, the remaining lands within the limits were given to the proprietors in common, and on October 13th, 1709, the payment of forty pounds through the agency of Captain Chandler having been made, a patent for the remaining lands was given by the governor and company of Connecticut to the following proprietors: Colonel Robert Treat, Major James Fitch, Captain John Chandler, Joseph Otis, James Danielson, Ephraim Warren, Peter Aspinwall, Joseph Cady, Richard Evans, Sr. and Jr., John Winter, Stephen Clap, John and William Crawford, George Blanchard, Thomas Whitmore, John Lorton, Jonathan Russel, Daniel Cady, William Price, William Moffat, James and Joseph Leavens, John, Nathaniel and Nicholas Mighill, John Bartlett, Samuel Winter, Ebenezer Kee, Isaac and Jonathan Cutler, Peter Leavens, Sampson Howe, John Sabin, John Preston, Philip Eastman, David Church, Thomas Priest, Nicholas Cady, John, Thomas, Matthew, Jabez and Isaac Allen. Nearly one-third of these forty-four patentees were non-residents, so that Killingly probably numbered at that date about thirty families. Only a small part of the territory was inhabited, and that mostly in the Quinebaug valley and the open country north of Killingly hill.

An extensive rise of land in the eastern part of the town was called Chestnut hill. A broad open plateau lay upon the top of this hill, while its steep sides were heavily wooded. This very desirable spot of ground was included in the grants laid out to John and Joseph Haynes, Timothy Woodbridge and Governor Treat; sold by them to John Allen; by him to Captain John Chandler, who sold the whole tract—2,400 acres, for £312—to Eleazer and Thomas Bateman, of Concord, Samuel and Thomas Gould, Nathaniel Lawrence, Ebenezer Bloss, Thomas Richardson and Ebenezer Knight, joint proprietors. John Brown, Moses Barret, Josiah Proctor, Daniel Carrol, Samuel Robbins, Daniel Ross and John Grover were soon after admitted among the Chestnut hill proprietors. Home lots were laid out on the hill

summit, but the remainder of the land was held in common by them for many years. A road was laid over the hill-top and carried on to Cutler's mill and the Providence way. The remainder of Haynes' grant was laid out east of Assawaga river, bordering south on Whetstone brook, and was purchased by Nicholas Cady, who, in 1709, removed his residence hither. This tract, together with Breakneck hill on the east, and much other land in this vicinity, passed into the hands of Ephraim Warren, son of Deacon Jacob Warren, of Plainfield, and who was one of the first settlers of Killingly Centre. The Owaneco land in the southern part of Killingly, held by Plainfield residents, was still unsettled and undivided, though many rights were sold or bartered. Edward Spalding bought the rights of James Kingsbury and William Marsh for £1, 10s. each. In 1708 Michael Hewlett purchased Parkhurst's right for one pound. Jacob Warren sold his right in this land to Nicholas Cady in exchange for land north of Whetsone brook, southwest from Chestnut hill, in 1710. Thomas Stevens at the same date sold his share to Ephraim Warren. John Hutchins bought out the rights of Nathaniel Jewell and Samuel Shepard.

Previous to this time the north line of Killingly had been what was known as Woodward and Saffery's line, then recognized as the boundary between Massachusetts and Connecticut, which line crossed what is now the southern part of Thompson. In 1713 this line was exchanged for a new one, six or seven miles farther north, which has since been recognized. As the charter of Killingly named the Massachusetts line as its north bound, the town now claimed the enlargement thus created. This claim was, however, denied by the government, by whom the north bounds of Killingly were declared "not to be above nine miles to the northwards of the said south bounds." But Killingly was persistent in asserting its claims, which were recognized by the courts, and this town continued to exercise jurisdiction over the territory in question, and admitting the people living upon it to ecclesiastical and civil rights in the town. In 1728 this territory was constituted a distinct society. By the government that society was regarded as independent of any town, but the society itself and the town of Killingly regarded it as belonging to that town, and so continued to exercise the conditions of such an association until the society became an organized town in 1785. At that time the dividing line between

Killingly and Thompson was agreed upon as a due east and west line between the Rhode Island line and the Quinebaug river, which line should run through the middle of a certain "heap of stones about two feet south of the garden wall owned by Mr. John Mason." The mansion house of Mr. John Mason, near the garden wall spoken of, is that now owned and occupied by Mr. William Converse, of Putnam.

The population of Killingly continued to increase. Daniel Cady removed to the south part of Pomfret, Nicholas Cady to Preston; but others took their places. Robert Day settled south of Whetstone brook in 1717. Nell-Ellick Saunders—afterward called Alexander—bought land of the non-resident Mighills in 1721, near Lake Mashapaug, which soon took the name of Alexander's lake, which has since clung to it. Joseph Covill, Philip Priest, Andrew Phillips and John Comins, of Charlestown, were admitted among the Chestnut hill company. John Hutchins, of Plainfield, is believed to have taken possession of the north part of the Owaneco purchase about 1720. In 1721 the town of Killingly laid out and distributed its first division of public lands. About eighty persons received shares of this land. No record is preserved of the terms and extent of this division. During this year the train-band was organized. Joseph Cady was chosen captain, Ephraim Warren lieutenant, and Thomas Gould ensign. Of the progress of schools, roads and many public affairs at that time, no knowledge can be obtained. A burial ground south of the Providence road was given to the town by Peter Aspinwall at an early date.

The first town meeting in Killingly of which there is existing record was held November 25th, 1728. But forty-four regularly admitted freemen were then reported, not half the adult male residents. Justice Joseph Leavens was moderator of that meeting. He was also chosen town clerk and first selectman. Eleazer Bateman, Isaac Cutler, Joseph Cady and Benjamin Bixby were also chosen townsmen; Robert Day, constable; Thomas Gould and Jonathan Clough, branders; Joseph Barret and John Russel, grand jurymen; Daniel Clark, Jabez Brooks, William Whitney, Israel Joslin, William Larned and Daniel Lawrence, surveyors; Daniel Waters, Andrew Phillips, Nathaniel Johnson and Jaazaniah Horsmor, listers; Benjamin Barret and Jacob Comins, fence viewers; John Hutchins, tithing man. Peter Aspinwall, James Leavens, Sampson Howe and Joseph Cady still remained

in charge of the public lands of the town. The school moneys were proportioned to the two societies according to their respective lists. A year later a committee was appointed to lay out highways in Thompson parish, which was in 1730 recognized as a parish belonging to the town of Killingly, by an act of the assembly. The military company of the south part of Killingly was now re-organized with Ephraim Warren, captain; Isaac Cutler, lieutenant; and Samuel Danielson, ensign. Isaac Cutler, Sampson Howe and Mrs. Mary Lee were allowed to keep houses of public entertainment.

Mr. James Danielson, one of the early and enterprising settlers of Killingly, laid out a burial ground between the rivers, on his land, and was himself the first one to be buried in it. The inscription on the earliest stone in that ground is as follows:

"In memory of the well beloved Mr. James Danielson, who, after he had served God and his generation faithfully many years in this life, did, with the holy disciple, lean himself upon the breast of his Beloved, and sweetly fell asleep in the cradle of death, on the 22d day of January, A. D. 1728, in the 80th year of his age. 'A saint carries the white stone of absolution in his bosom, and fears not the day of judgment.'"

Mr. Danielson left a son Samuel in possession of his homestead and much landed property. Among his estate were five negroes, valued at six hundred pounds.

The first settler of South Killingly, Jacob Spalding, was thrown from his cart and instantly killed, in 1728. He left two young children, Simeon and Damaris. His widow afterward married Edward Stewart, a reputed scion of the royal family of Scotland. Shepard Fisk, afterward a prominent man in public affairs, settled near Killingly Centre prior to 1730. Daniel Lawrence, of Plainfield, settled on a farm in the Owaneco purchase, and title to land "south of Manhumsqueag bounds," was confirmed to him. One of the first residents of Killingly hill was probably Noah, son of Joseph Leavens, who established himself on its southern extremity about 1740. The road over and west of the hill was often altered to suit the convenience of the inhabitants. Samuel Cutler was allowed to open his house for travelers in 1740. The tavern stand afterward known as Warren's, at the fork of the roads, a half mile east of Cutler's, was first occupied by John Felshaw in 1742. In the same year John Hutchins was licensed to keep a tavern in the south part of the

town. Pounds were allowed in different neighborhoods for securing stray animals belonging to this or other towns, which were running at large over the commons of Killingly and becoming a source of great annoyance and damage to the people. In 1749, when by direction of assembly the bounds of the town, including Thompson parish, were more definitely settled and established than they had before been, the town then being divided into three societies, the taxable property in the north society (Thompson) amounted to £8,850; that in the middle society, £4,359; and that in the south society, £6,112.

Killingly was greatly disturbed in 1759, by the discovery of a gang of counterfeiters within her borders, engaged "in the vile crime of aiding in making counterfeit bills of credit." A son of one of her most respectable citizens was implicated in this affair, convicted, and sentenced to perpetual confinement. A large number of his fellow townsmen interceded in his behalf, "that they had known him from a child, and known him to be honest and regular, and took care of his aged father and mother, to as good acceptance as could be, and was in good credit among his neighbors, as little mistrusted as any young man in town, and were of opinion that he was over persuaded by evil minded persons." Through these representations, and his own declaration that he had been importuned by a certain Frenchman and others, the assembly granted the prisoner liberty "to remove to Killingly and there dwell and remain."

In January, 1775, a number of public-spirited citizens secured from Reverend Aaron Brown and Sampson Howe a deed of about three acres of land adjoining the meeting house lot, for the benefit of the public as a common forever. In South Killingly affairs seem to have been less prosperous than in the middle and northern societies. Unity was wanting in the ecclesiastical affairs, three different churches claiming the field and struggling for existence there.

Captain John Felshaw, long prominent in town and public affairs, died at an advanced age, in 1782. His famous tavern was held for a time by Samuel Felshaw, and sold in 1797, to Captain Aaron Arnold, of Rhode Island. Business at this time was developing. A store was opened on the hill by Sampson Howe. William Basto engaged in the manufacture of hats. Stout chairs and excellent willow baskets were made by Jonathan and Joseph Buck. During the early part of the present century manufac-

turing received much attention, and a very considerable impulse was given to the business development of the town. This impulse was also manifested in other activities. The mineral resources of the town were sought out and brought before the public. The old Whetstone hills were found to enclose valuable quarries of freestone, suitable for building purposes. Rare and beautiful detached stones, as well as extensive quarries, were found on Breakneck hill. A rich bed of porcelain clay was discovered on Mashentuck hill, which was pronounced by good judges to equal the best French or Chinese clay. Indications of lead and still more valuable ores were also reported. These mineral treasures, however, have never been developed to any profitable degree. The quality of the clay proved unequal to what was anticipated, and a lack of facilities have prevented the realization of the sanguine expectations of those early years.

In 1836 the town had five post offices, all of which retained the town name, the cardinal points being used to distinguish four of them from the fifth, as well as from one another. At that time the Centre postmaster was J. Field; North, Luther Warren; East, H. Peckham; South, Cyrus Day; West, George Danielson.

The expense of taking care of the poor was in early years considerable of a burden upon the town, and measures were taken to avoid, as much as possible, the increase of that burden. The custom of farming out the poor to whoever would keep them at the lowest price was commonly practiced. During the latter part of the last century a work house appears to have been temporarily provided from year to year, and some citizen appointed to have charge of it. In this way the poor were made practically self-supporting. About 1833 a permanent house was secured, which was said to be a *very poor* house. An Indian woman, who went there to live, after the wind had demolished her own wigwam, approved the accommodations, saying, when asked how she liked her new home: "Pretty well, 'cos we live just like Injuns."

Among the first public movements of this town in the direction of providing highways within the limits of the present town, was the opening of a "gangway," which in fact was already there when the town was organized, in 1709, leading from Plainfield to Boston. This extended through the entire length of the town, connecting by a cross road with the ways to Hartford and Woodstock, at the fording place below the Great Falls

of the Quinebaug. Its condition may be inferred from the tradition that when James Danielson's negro was sent to Boston with a load of produce, he had made so little progress after a day's journey that he went home to sleep the first night. The Providence way, after encircling the base of Killingly hill, wound back far to the north, past Isaac Cutler's residence, enabling the inhabitants to procure boards from his saw mill, and helping to build up that remote section. Mr. Cutler was early allowed to keep a house of entertainment, and his tavern was noted as the last landmark of civilization, on the road from Connecticut to Providence. Other parts of the town were then only accommodated with rude bridle paths.

About the year 1729 the organization of the town seemed to take a fresh impetus, and among other matters that received renewed attention, the roads were remodelled and placed in better condition. Chestnut hill settlers were allowed a way from Sergeant Ebenezer Knight's at the south end of the hill, northward over the hill to Lieutenant Isaac Cutler's, "as the road was laid out by Chestnut hill purchasers through their tract." Bridle roads with gates for passing, crossing the hill, were also allowed from Ebenezer Knight's to John Lorton's,and from Ebenezer Brooks' to Joseph Barret's. A highway was also ordered from the bridge over Whetstone brook to the settlement in South Killingly, and a cart-bridge over Little river in Daniel Lawrence's field. In 1731, Captain Warren, Captain Howe and George Blanchard were appointed "to perambulate the highway that comes from Plainfield, leading toward Oxford," remove nuisances and report needful alterations. This important road, communicating with Boston, Norwich and New London, was then thoroughly perambulated and surveyed, from John Hutchins' on the south to Nathaniel Brown's on the north—a distance of eighteen or twenty miles—and some important alterations suggested. Instead of winding westward around the base of Killingly hill, it was now carried "to a heap of stones on a rock upon the hill," facilitating settlement on this beautiful eminence.

In 1749 a road was laid out in the south part of the town, to accommodate the inhabitants traveling to the south meeting house, beginning on Voluntown line, "near the road now laid to the saw mill standing on Moosup," and extending to the bridge over Whetstone brook. A bridle road was also laid out from Daniel Waters' to the south meeting house, and the road over

the north side of Chestnut hill leading to "where the old meeting house stood," was turned east of Enoch Moffatt's house, over a brook, to the new house of worship. A road was completed directly from Providence to the south part of Killingly in 1750, and a new bridge built over the Quinebaug, near Captain Samuel Danielson's. A committee was thereupon appointed to lay out a convenient road through the town from this bridge to the Providence highway. A road was also laid out from this convenient bridge northeast, to Five Mile river; also, one from the old burial place to the new meeting house on Killingly hill, and others in different parts of the town. A committee was appointed, December 1st, 1754, "to view and survey our country roads, and take quit-claim deeds of all the persons who owned lands where the roads cross." The road from Plainfield to Massachusetts line through the town received especial attention. Quit-claim deeds were received from John Hutchins and his sons, Joseph, Wyman, Ezra and Silas Hutchins, Willard Spalding, Samuel Danielson, Daniel Waters, Boaz Stearns, Daniel Davis and many others. The length of this road, as thus surveyed, was found to be seventeen miles 250½ rods.

In 1757 a road was laid out from Danielson's bridge to Voluntown line, near a saw mill called John Priest's. The bridge built by Samuel Cutler over the Quinebaug at the Falls, was next examined by the selectmen and found "rotten and defective, and not safe to pass over." It was then voted, "To build that part of the bridge that belongs to Killingly to build, Edward Converse to build it and proceed speedily to do the same." In 1767 Briant and Nathaniel Brown and Benjamin Leavens were appointed "to join with Pomfret gentlemen in repairing the bridge called Danielson's." However well repaired, it was soon carried away by a freshet, and a new committee appointed in 1770, "to rebuild our part of the bridge at Cargill's Mills, and view the Quinebaug above and below where Danielson's bridge stood, and see where they could set a bridge." William Danielson was allowed twenty-nine pounds for building half the latter bridge, and a new road was laid out from it to Voluntown. In 1774 the Quinebaug was bridged between Cargill's and Danielson's, near the residence of Deacon Simon Cotton.

A new road was laid out about 1795, from the country road near Doctor Hutchins' dwelling house, running east to Mr. Day's

meeting house, through lands of Penuel and Zadoc Hutchins, Samuel Stearns, Wilson Kies, James Danielson and the sons of Deacon Jacob Spalding. The petition for an open highway through lands of William Torrey, heirs of Reverend John Fisk and others, was opposed for a time, but finally granted. A new road was also allowed from Jonathan and Philip Dexter's to Cutler's bridge, in the eastern part of the town. An act of the county court obliged the selectmen to lay out a road from the road near Edward Babbitt's, on Chestnut hill, to the meeting house in the north parish. A jury met at Sampson Howe's in December, 1799, and laid out a road from Captain John Day's through lands of Carpenter, Alexander, Kelly, Leavens, Howe, Whipple and Warren. After much discussion it was decided, in 1801, "to lay out a turnpike from the Norwich turnpike, in Pomfret, to the turnpike in Gloucester." This Pomfret and Killingly turnpike, passing over Killingly hill by the meeting house, was accomplished in 1803, but the exhausted town declined to build half the new bridge needed for its accommodation till cited before the court to answer for its negligence. The bridge was then built, but not being built in a substantial and workmanlike manner, it was soon carried away by high water, and the town thus involved in fresh difficulties and arbitrations.

Many new roads were demanded for the accommodation of the manufacturing interests, in which this town was involved in the early part of the century. The town accepted a road laid out from Danielson's Factory to the country road near the dwelling house of Solomon Sikes, at the same time declining responsibility for the bridge over Five Mile river, and voted not to oppose a road from Danielson's to the house of Reverend Israel Day, and thence to Rhode Island line. This new road to Providence was very needful for the transportation of goods and cotton. The mercantile operations of Captain Alexander Gaston, who had removed from Sterling to South Killingly, were also greatly benefitted thereby. His flourishing store added greatly to the importance of South Killingly. He was accustomed to buy large quantities of goods in New York, and when his ships were expected to arrive in Providence, the farmers of this neighborhood would hurry down to haul them up to his place of business in Killingly.

The mill privilege on the Five Mile river, afterward occupied by "the Howe Factory," was in 1760 improved by Jared Talbot and David Perry, who accommodated the neighborhood with sawing and grinding. In August, 1807, James Danielson, Zadoc and James Spalding asked liberty to build a dam on the Quinebaug, between Brooklyn and Killingly. The relations between the Windham towns and their Rhode Island neighbors had been always most intimate and friendly. Providence was their most accessible market. Their first public work was to open a way to that town. Now that the era of manufacturing was opening, those intimate relations were intensified. Killingly caught the spirit of manufacturing enterprise. Walter Paine and Israel Day of Providence, William Reed, Ira and Stephen Draper of Attleborough, Ebenezer and Comfort Tiffany, John Mason and Thaddeus Larned of Thompson, William Cundall, Sr. and Jr., joined with Danielson and Hutchins in the Danielsonville Manufacturing Company of Killingly.

The manufacturing excitement raged with great violence in this town, its numerous rivers offering such convenient facilities that her own citizens were able to embark in such enterprises with less foreign aid than was requisite in other towns. "Danielson's Factory," at the Quinebaug Falls, enjoyed a high place in popular favor, its twenty liberal handed stockholders, mostly town residents, prosecuting its various business affairs with much energy. William Reed served most efficiently for many years as its agent. Its well filled store was managed for many years by the Tiffany Brothers, from Rhode Island.

The "Stone Chapel," on the present site of the Attawaugan, was built by Captain John and Ebenezer Kelly, for John Mason of Thompson, in 1810, but did not get into successful operation for some years, when John, James B. and Edward Mason, Jr., were incorporated as the "Stone Chapel Manufacturing Company." Messrs. John Mason and Harvey Blashfield had the oversight of this establishment. The tallow candles needed for its morning and evening service were dipped by Miss Harriet Kelly, in batches of forty dozen at a time.

The privilege on the Five Mile river, long occupied by Talbot's grist mill, passed into the hands of the Killingly Manufacturing Company in 1814. Its constituent members were: Ru.us Waterman, Thomas Thompson, John Andrews, of Providence; David Wilkinson, Henry Howe, of North Providence;

Doctor Robert Grosvenor, Jedidiah Sabin, Elisha Howe, Benjamin Greene, of Killingly; Smith Wilkinson, Eleazer Sabin, of Pomfret. The Howes had charge of the business, and the factory soon built was called by their name.

The remarkable descent of the Whetstone brook furnished privileges quite out of proportion to its volume of water. The first Chestnut Hill Company to take advantage of this fall was constituted by Joseph Harris, Ebenezer Young, Calvin Leffingwell, Asa Alexander, George Danielson and Lemuel Starkweather, whose wheels and spindles were soon competing with those of other manufacturers.

The greatest spirit and activity prevailed in these growing villages. Everybody was hard at work, building, digging, planting, carting, weaving, spinning, picking cotton, making harnesses, dipping candles, and attending the thousand wants of the hour. The intense mechanical activity of the time was manifested by a remarkable feminine achievement, the exercise of the inventive faculty hitherto dormant in the female mind. Mrs. Mary Kies of South Killingly, invented "a new and useful improvement in weaving straw with silk or thread," for which she obtained in May, 1809, the *first patent issued to any woman in the United States*, and she is also said to have been the first female applicant. Mrs. President Madison expressed her gratification by a complimentary note to Mrs. Kies. The fabrication of this graceful and ingenious complication was thus added to the other industries of Killingly.

Killingly's excessive activity during the war of 1812 was followed by corresponding depression. Mills owned by men of moderate means were generally closed, and those still kept at work did so at pecuniary loss to the proprietors. Experiments in machinery and modes of working were meanwhile tested, power looms introduced, and many improvements effected. Companies were reorganized, new men and capital brought in, and when business revived, Killingly mills were soon under fresh headway. In 1819 the town had so far recovered from its losses as to report four factories in operation, all of which contained about five thousand spindles, and had been erected at an expense, including buildings and machinery, of nearly $300,000. At the Danielson Manufactory water looms had been introduced and in general the business was carried on upon the most improved principles and very advantageously. Besides the cot-

ton factories there were one woolen factory, one gin distillery, one paper hanging manufactory, four dye houses, three clothiers' works, three carding machines, three tanneries, eight grain mills and eight saw mills. Experiments in straw weaving were brought to an untimely end by a sovereign decree from the supreme arbiter of fashion, and hopes of pecuniary profit proved as brittle as the straw with which Mrs. Kies had wrought out her ingenious invention. Her son, Daniel Kies, Esq., of Brooklyn, as well as friends at home, lost heavily by investing in a manufacture, which, by a sudden change of fashion, became utterly valueless.

Killingly is reported by Barber in 1836, "the greatest cotton manufacturing town in the State." Its reputation and resources had been magnified by the building up of Williamsville on the Quinebaug, and Dayville on the Five Mile river. Dayville was commended "for its neat appearance, and for a bridge composed of two finely constructed stone arches, each 25 feet broad and 12 high." Captain John Day sold two-thirds of this privilege to Prosper and William Alexander, and joined them in building and equipping a cotton factory in 1832. Caleb Williams of Providence, purchased the Quinebaug privilege, and erected a handsome stone building in 1827. Danielson's mills had passed into the hands of the sons of General Danielson, and began to be noted "as a thriving village." The temperance reform had swept away the distillery at Mason's factory, and "Gin-town" was transferred into Ruggles' factory. The Killingly Company owning Howe's factory was reorganized in 1828. Smaller factories on the Five Mile river were run by Ballou and Amsbury. The carding machine on the outlet of Alexander's lake had been superseded by a woolen factory. Great activity prevailed in the east part of the town, where some half dozen mills were propelled by the lively little Whetstone, under the patronage of Ebenezer Young, Richard Bartlett, Prosper Leffingwell, Asa Alexander, John S. Harris, Thomas Pray and others. An aggregate of twenty-five thousand spindles was reported, with three woolen mills, one furnace and one axe factory. In 1840 Killingly boasted the largest population in Windham county, having gained upon Thompson, which stood at the head in 1830.

Among the early manufacturing interests of Killingly was that of Calvin Leffingwell, a native of Pomfret, who came to East Killingly in 1828, and in company with Jedidiah Leav-

ens built a mill for the manufacture of cotton cloth, of twenty-four looms. This mill, after running many years and passing into other hands, was burned and not rebuilt. Mr. Leffingwell died at Danielsonville in 1872.

The first movement in the direction of establishing the Gospel ministry in Killingly was in 1708, when the court granted "liberty to the inhabitants of Killingly to survey and lay out one hundred acres of land within their township for the use and encouragement of a minister to settle there and carry on the worship of God among them." A hundred acres of land for the first settled minister were also pledged to the town by Captain Chandler, in presence and with concurrence of the selectmen.

The first minister was Reverend John Fisk, of Braintree, Mass., a son of Reverend Moses Fisk and a graduate of Harvard. His work probably began about 1710, religious services being held in private houses, alternating between different parts of the town. July 16th, 1711, the town agreed to give Mr. Fisk three hundred and fifty acres of land for his encouragement to settle in the work of the ministry. Two hundred acres were laid out on French river, which were afterward proved to be beyond the bounds of Killingly. Seventy-five acres were laid out on the western slope of Killingly hill and seventy-five on Assawaga or Five Mile river. Stated religious services were probably held after this date by Mr. Fisk, though some years passed before his settlement, neighborhood ministers meanwhile being called in to administer baptism and other sacraments as occasion required.

In the summer of 1714, the meeting house was raised and covered. Its site was east of the Plainfield road, about one-fourth of a mile south of the present East Putnam meeting house. Nothing is known of its size and appearance, or of the circumstances of its building. In the ensuing summer it was made ready for occupation, and preparations made for church organization. September 15th, 1715, was observed in Killingly as a day of solemn fasting and prayer, preparatory to the gathering of a church and the ordination of a pastor. October 19th, 1715, a church was organized, and Reverend John Fisk ordained the pastor of it. The original members were: John Fisk, James Danielson, Peter Aspinwall, James Leavens, Sampson Howe, Ebenezer Balman, Richard Bloosse, George Blanchard, Isaac

Jewett, Thomas Gould and Stephen Grover. Sixteen additional communicants were admitted into the church before the close of the year. December 29th, 1715, Peter Aspinwall and Eleazer Balman were chosen deacons. The first marriage recorded by the young minister was that of William Larned to Hannah, the first of the seven notable daughters of Simon Bryant. The only incident of his domestic life that has come down to us is the burning of his house and all its contents one Sabbath when the family were attending public worship. The ministry of Reverend Mr. Fisk was acceptable and prosperous, and large numbers were added to the church. His pastoral charge comprehended also the inhabitants north of Killingly. The hundred acres of land given by Captain Chandler to the first settled minister of Killingly were laid out to him in 1712, west of Five Mile river, a half mile east of the meeting house.

This church prospered for a while. A season of special religious interest in 1728–9 added sixty to its membership. Eleazer Bateman, Jr., was chosen deacon in 1730, and Haniel Clark in 1733. Mr. Fisk remained in the pastorate till July 8th, 1741, when he was dismissed at his own request. During his ministry he had performed 463 baptisms, and admitted 254 members into full communion and 148 to the "half-way covenant."

A protracted meeting house controversy followed the dismission of Mr. Fisk. It was decided to build a new meeting house, and at the same time a division of the First society into two was contemplated. The people of each prospective society wished to have the new meeting house located so that it would fall within their own bounds when the division should be made. The northern people wished it to stand near the old church, on Killingly hill, while the southern people wished it to be located on Breakneck hill. In October, 1743, the assembly, after hearing the case and reports of committees, decided that the latter site, which was nearly central to the society as then constituted, should be adopted. November 21st the society by a large vote refused to build on that site. The question was re-opened at a later meeting, in December, and a controversy in regard to the qualification of some proposed voters became so clamorous that the moderator dissolved the meeting, and most of the people went home. The southern party then having the field, reorganized the meeting and voted to build a meeting house on Breakneck hill. A committee was appointed for the purpose, and the

work was immediately carried forward. The "Breakneck party," though probably in the minority, had obtained the lead and were carrying things by storm. In the midst of the confusion and excitement that prevailed, a messenger was sent to report the irregular proceedings to the governor and council. On the day appointed for raising the meeting house frame, March 28th, 1744, a large company gathered on the ground. When the frame was partly raised the northern party arrived upon the ground, with a message from the governor and council expressing the opinion that it was irregular and "high handed disorder" for any party to carry forward the work of building, in defiance of the properly expressed determination of the society, even though the society had refused to do the bidding of the assembly. The opinion and advice was that it was the business of the assembly to see that its decrees were carried out, and was not proper for a part of the society to volunteer to act in that direction against the desires of the majority. The opinion and advice were not heeded by the builders, who went boldly forward with their work until the meeting house was raised and covered.

The disgraceful wrangle between the two parties was carried to the assembly, and so well balanced were their counter charges against each other in respect to irregularities and unfairness that the assembly were at a loss to know how to decide between them, and postponed any action till October, when it decided that the meeting house should stand and be finished where it was. The Breakneck party were now in triumphant gladness, but the northern people, as well as those in the extreme south, were not disposed to accept the situation. Thus the Killingly First society was broken into many factions. There was the Breakneck party, who wanted the society to remain with a meeting house in the center. In the north and south ends of the society were factions striving for a division into two societies, so that each could be better accommodated with a meeting house near them. Then, to add to the complications, the Separate or New Light movements were raging at this time, and this made subdivisons of each faction.

In October, 1745, the assembly divided the society and made two distinct societies of it. Under this act each claimed the prerogative of being the First society, and with this dispute they again repaired to the assembly. This, however, was quickly settled in favor of the north society.

The First society and church now hastened to reorganize. The church at its reorganization, November 29th, 1745, was composed of the following members: Joseph Leavens, Sr., Joseph Leavens, Jr., Thomas Moffatt, Daniel Whitmore, Joseph Cady, David Roberts, Sr., David Roberts, Jr., Samuel Buck, John Brown, Ebenezer Brooks, Francis Whitmore, John Roberts, Andrew Phillips, Ephraim Day, Benjamin Leavens, John Leavens, Thomas Mighill. Reverend Pearley Howe was then pastor elect, and continued in that relation until his death, March 10th, 1753, being then in his forty-third year. His wife was Damaris, daughter of Captain Joseph Cady. He received the commendation of being "a highly respectable and useful minister." By consent of the town the First society in the last end of 1745 proceeded to pull down the old meeting house and to build a new one about a quarter of a mile north of it, on the "east side of the country road right against Noah Leavens' dwelling house," where an acre of land had been given for the purpose by Justice Joseph Leavens. The house now erected was said to be superior to any other in the county. It had three great double doors, opening east, west and south; large square pews, furnished with lattice work; a high pulpit and sounding board; galleries, front and sides, with rising seats and wall pews in the rear, and two flights of broad stairs leading to them. Reverend Aaron Brown, of Windsor, was ordained January 19th, 1754, and soon after married the widow of his predecessor. The society was divided into three school districts, each district maintaining its own school. The church and society were now prosperous. Reverend Emerson Foster, the successor of Reverend Aaron Brown, was ordained here January 21st, 1778, the society offering him £220 for settlement and £20 salary. Dissatisfaction soon arose, many withdrew to the Baptist society and it soon became difficult to raise the money. In July, 1779, Mr. Foster was dismissed, and for a time religious services were maintained somewhat irregularly by Russel Cook and others for several years. Reverend Elisha Atkins, of Middletown, was installed in the pastoral office here June 3d, 1787, the society granting two hundred pounds settlement, fifty-five pounds salary, and the cutting and drawing of the minister's firewood. The house was repaired and a belfry added and a bell procured and placed in it. Sampson Howe was to be paid twenty dollars a year for ringing the bell and sweeping the meeting house. Mr. Atkins proved a most ex-

cellent pastor, and as a citizen was interested in all plans for public improvement.

The old church was becoming out of repair, and a new one was talked of in 1815, but nothing was done till the famous "September gale" damaged the building, so that repairs on it were no longer practicable. The remains of the old building were sold at auction, January 28th, 1818, and during the ensuing summer a new house was built on "that part of the ancient meeting house lot lying between Providence and Killingly Turnpike, and the road leading to the new factory, so called, near the east side of said lot." It is said the "spirits" used in raising this frame cost twenty-five dollars.

Mr. Atkins continued in sole charge of the church on Killingly hill until 1832, when, after nearly a half century's service, he was compelled to employ a colleague. Reverends William Bushnell, Sidney Holman and Henry Robinson, were successively installed in office; the latter remaining in charge several years after the death of the venerable pastor in 1839. Reverend James Mather appears to have been in charge of the church in 1846. Later history of this church will be found in connection with Putnam, in which town it is now situated.

The society of Killingly being divided, as we have already seen, into two societies, meeting houses and churches were established in both ends of the former society, and the meeting house on Breakneck hill not being available for either, it was of but little further use. It was used for various irregular religious services and for public town meetings, and after a number of years was taken down, and some of its timbers used in the construction of the town house at Killingly Centre. A few mouldering gravestones on the rugged summit of Breakneck hill remain to mark the neighborhood of its site. The church and society were by the organization of others reduced to the merest remnants, which soon faded out entirely, the church records being destroyed by fire, so that the details of the Breakneck church are buried in oblivion. The church appears to have maintained strength enough to have a minister more or less of the time until about the end of the last century.

The inhabitants in South Killingly were permitted, on account of their remoteness from the Killingly hill meeting house, in the winter of 1734–35 to employ a minister to preach to them during the winter season, though they were required to pay

rates to the regular minister the same as before. In April, 1735, the assembly granted the South Killingly people, who then numbered about one hundred and fifty souls, liberty "to hire an orthodox minister five months in the year, and freedom from the ministerial tax during that period." This temporary exemption from rate-paying did not become their permanent privilege until 1755, when they were released by the assembly from further charges to the South society, in which they were embraced in the division of 1745. This happy result was secured from the colonial government only by an appeal first to the throne of Great Britain in the reign of George II. The petition from South Killingly was the first to gain a favorable hearing in the colonial assembly.

The same year in which the church worshipping on Breakneck hill was instituted (known as the South church in Killingly) a Separate church was organized in South Killingly, December, 1746, with Stephen Spalding as clerk. In the early spring of the next year Stephen Spalding and John Eaton were chosen deacons. April 27th, 1747, Samuel Wadsworth was elected pastor. His installation occurred June 3d, 1747, some of the most respected Separate ministers being present to assist in his ordination—Reverend Matthew Smith, of Stonington, Reverend Joseph Snow, of Providence, Ebenezer Cleveland, of Canterbury, Isaac Backus, the church historian, and Oliver Prentice, of Stonington.

During the successful ministry of Mr. Wadsworth several of the remaining Indians were led to reform their lives and to unite with the church. Mr. Wadsworth's pastorate was terminated by his death in 1762, and in November of that year a call was extended to Reverend Thomas Denison. This relation was an unhappy one, lasting a little less than two years; to be followed by the very able and acceptable ministry of Eliphalet Wright, who was inducted into the pastoral office May 16th, 1765. An important work accomplished under his leadership was a revision and a re-signing of the church's articles of faith and covenant. The faith and covenant of the Plainfield Separate church were voted "a good and wholesome system of our faith and practice and agreed to as our covenant, by which we will walk for the future looking for more light."

In 1776 the Divine Spirit was sent down upon the people like gentle rain, which lasted for more than two years, in which time

about fifty persons were received into the church. This "beloved pastor" met his death August 4th, 1784, from the effects of an injury received while leading a fractious animal. His burial place is in the old cemetery, as is also that of his predecessor, Samuel Wadsworth. The headstones of each are legible and in a good state of preservation. Mr. Wright was an ardent patriot, shouldering his musket on one occasion and marching as far as Plainfield to repel the invading British.

June 1st, 1785, Israel Day assumed the office made vacant by the death of Mr. Wright, Reverend Ebenezer Bradford, of Rowley, Mass., preaching the installation sermon. Forty-one years Mr. Day went in and out before this people, resigning his charge in 1826, May 23d. In his ministry the church enjoyed two seasons of special religious interest and joyful ingathering of souls. In 1788 forty-nine were added to the church, and in 1800 and 1801 sixty-four. A narrative of the latter remarkable revival from Mr. Day's own pen was published subsequently in the *Evangelical Magazine*. This man of God received a fatal injury in the barn of his grandson five years after he had laid down his charge. His loss was mourned through all the region round about. December 10th, 1831, was the date of his decease. His funeral sermon was preached by Daniel Dow, D. D., of Thompson, from Psalms 1, 5. Like his predecessors, Mr. Day was buried with his own people. In his long ministry he attended 756 funerals.

For the six years succeeding the resignation of Mr. Day, the pulpit was supplied only with occasional preaching by different ministers, whose names have not been preserved, as there are no existing church records of this period. A Reverend Mr. Wheelock has left the strongest impression on the minds of those then living, and perhaps preached longer than any one else. Reverend Mr. Nott, son of the venerable Doctor Samuel Nott, of Franklin, and Reverend Mr. Holt, supplied for several months each.

In April, 1832, John N. Whipple, a theological student from Bangor Seminary, began to labor with the church, and was here ordained as an evangelist May 5th, Reverend Philo Judson, of Ashford, preaching the ordination sermon. Mr. Whipple continued in the field until the spring of 1834. He again was acting pastor of the church in 1840–41. One of the fruits of his first ministry was a revival that added 40 persons to the church. He

was the first mover for a new church edifice. His other ministerial service was in Maine, Rhode Island and Ohio, where he died in the town of Lodi, December 29th, 1865.

For the the year 1834–35 Reverend Alvin Underwood was the stated supply, of whose subsequent life and labors nothing has been ascertained.

The years 1835–1840 constitute the second broken period of the history of the church. Reverend Thomas Williams, who had been ordained as "an evangelist to go out as a missionary" in the old church by Windham Association May 16th, 1804, preached during 1838. Mr. Williams died at the home of his son, Reverend N. W. Williams, in Providence, September 29th, 1876, at the great age of 97, giving no indication of disease. He preached for the last time in his 93d year. He was a voluminous author and a man of eminent abilities.

The minutes of the General Association of Connecticut declare the church "vacant" for 1837 and also in 1839.

From July, 1842, to April, 1844, Reverend George Langdon was the acting pastor. He is now living in Lakewood, N. J., preaching as opportunity offers. A licentiate, Isaac C. Day (grandson of Israel), was employed to preach in April, 1846. May 28th, 1847, an ordaining council set him apart to the ministry of the Word, Reverend T. T. Waterman preaching the sermon. From physical causes Mr. Day was compelled shortly to leave the ministry, and is now living in Providence.

May 28th, 1849, Reverend Joseph Ayer was invited to the pulpit left vacant by the retirement of Mr. Day. After supplying over a year, Mr. Ayer accepted a call to settle, and was installed January 22d, 1851, Alvan Bond, D.D., giving the installation sermon. This pastorate closed by the dismissal of Mr. Ayer March 25th, 1856, by a council that convened in the Westfield church. Mr. Ayer's subsequent labors were with the churches at East Lyme, Voluntown and Sterling. He continued to preach till he was 77 years old. He entered into rest from the home of his son (Reverend C. L. Ayer) in Somersville, December 26th, 1875. It was in his pastorate that the creed and covenant of the Westfield church were adopted by this church as its faith and covenant.

The church was now so reduced in numbers and strength that the meeting house was loaned in 1856 to the Free-will Baptists of the place and the vicinity, who organized a church

that maintained its ordinances for ten years; after which time most of its membership became identified with a new organization—the Free Baptist Union church of Foster, R. I. Believing that its work was not yet done, some friends of the ancient church made the attempt in 1866 to revive its life. Reverend David Breed (now over the church in West Stafford) was engaged to supply the pulpit one year, from April, 1866.

April 1st, 1867, Reverend Ezra D. Kinney became acting pastor. In the summer of his first year the church united with him in an invitation to Reverend John D. Potter to engage in evangelistic service. Mr. Potter came the 4th of August and remained through the 9th, holding 16 meetings and preaching 13 times. His labors were attended with a great blessing, nearly 40 expressing hope in the pardoning mercy of God. From this revival 24 came into the church. April 18th, 1869, Mr. Kinney preached his farewell sermon and then labored for a year at Sayville, L. I., when he removed to Darien, Conn., where he was formerly pastor for 21 years. He died October 2d, 1873, aged 74. He was a large and successful worker in revivals, wrote much for religious newspapers, and was the author of a volume entitled "The Great Supper."

Reverend William W. Atwater was employed as stated supply July 25th, 1869. Pulmonary disease seriously impaired his health in the fall of 1872, and in February of the next year he removed to New Haven and became the librarian of Yale Law School, in which position he died March 14th, 1874.

In June, 1873, Reverend William H. Beard, of Andover, Mass., was engaged as acting pastor. Two seasons of special religious interest have been experienced—the first in the winter and spring of 1880, and the second in the winter and spring of 1887. In 1876 Mr. Beard prepared a centennial sermon from Psalms 48: 12 and 13—"Walk about Zion and go around about her; tell the towers thereof. Mark ye well her bulwarks; consider her palaces, that ye may tell it to the generation following,"—giving a comprehensive history of the church. Two Sabbaths—July 16th and 23d—were occupied in its delivery, the people manifesting their appreciation of these historical discourses by a large attendance.

There have been two meeting houses used by this church. The first stood for nearly a century on the north side of the turnpike, a few rods west of the present building. In 1837 the

old church edifice gave way to the present one. When set apart to sacred uses, January 2d, 1838, Reverend Sidney Holman of North Killingly (Putnam Heights), preached the sermon of dedication. This second church has several times undergone repairs. The outlay and changes upon it in the summer of 1868 were sufficient to justify a re-dedication. The ceremony took place August 19th, 1868, Reverend C. L. Ayer preaching the sermon from Exodus 25: 8, and Reverend Ezra D. Kinney offering the prayer of consecration. The bell that has summond the people together for more than a half century was the gift of Alexander Gaston, the father of ex-Governor Gaston of Massachusetts. For many years he was the principal merchant of the entire region, having his home and place of business near the church.

CHAPTER XXXV.

THE TOWN OF KILLINGLY—(Concluded).

Chestnut Hill.—Baptist Churches.—Cotton Mills.—Elliottville Mills.—Elmville Mills.—Attawaugan Mills.—M. E. Church.—Ballouville.—Dayville.—Manufactories.—Churches.—Societies.—Williamsville.—The Borough of Danielsonville.—Public Works.—Great Freshet.—Schools.—Churches.—Banks.—Music Hall.—Manufacturing Establishments.—Masonic and other Societies.—Newspapers.—Biographical Sketches.

IN the eastern part of the town of Killingly is the locality known as Chestnut hill, or East Killingly, the latter being the post office name, and properly comprehending several other localities within its limits. In this section are several mills and two Baptist churches, which will be noticed in detail separately.

The organization of the first Baptist church dates May 22d, 1776. At that time the membership numbered thirty-two males and twenty-seven females. But little progress was made. A minister was employed for a short time, but about the year 1790 the ordinances of the church were suspended and the effectiveness of the organization weakened. At one time the hand of fellowship was withdrawn by the neighboring churches on account of disorderly proceedings, but on being restored a minister was obtained, and the work went more smoothly forward. A renewal of the covenant was made in 1800, at which six brethren and nine sisters subscribed themselves. The pastoral labors of Reverend Calvin Cooper, which lasted about a year, added about one hundred members to the church. While Reverend Albert Cole was in charge of the church, a revival in 1831 and 1832 added eighty-five members. About seventy more were added as the fruits of a revival which occurred in 1838, under the pastorate of Reverend N. Branch. Reverend James Smither was pastor of the church from 1841 to 1843. During that time sixty-two members were added.

The ministers of this church have been as nearly as can be ascertained as follows: George Robinson, July, 1776, dismissed, 1785; ——— Campbell, a short time; Elders Lamb and John Cooper, 1786 to 1796; Elder Peter Rogers, 1796 to 1803; Calvin Cooper, September, 1805, ordained October 14th, to about 1826, being the longest pastorate the church has ever had; Elder Appleton, between the years 1827 and 1830; Albert Cole, ordained December 1st, 1830, to about 1833; Reverend Jonathan Oatley, May, 1834, one year; Reverend Erastus Duty, 1836; N. Branch, 1838; James Smither, 1841 to 1842; Tubal Wakefield, 1842 to 1844; N. Branch, six months in 1844; Joseph Damon, 1845–46; L. W. Wheeler, 1847 to 1850; Henry Bromley, 1851, for six months; Ebenezer Loomis, 1854; N. Branch, supply, 1855 to April, 1856; Hurley Miner, 1857, about three years; J. Aldrich, 1860 to 1863, ordained January 19th, 1861; H. B. Slater, son of Deacon Silas Slater of this church, September, 1865, to February, 1866; Austin Robbins, April, 1866, to April, 1872; Curtis Kenny, 1874, four months; N. Mathewson, 1876; James Rhea, 1878, a short time; C. B. Rockwell, October, 1879, for one year; Charles Nichols, 1880, one year; William C. Walker, 1882, a few months; Robert H. Sherman, ordained February 14th, 1884, resigned July 5th, 1885. Since that date there has been no regular preaching in the church.

The first house of worship was built at some time previous to 1790. A new meeting house was begun about 1802, and completed in the course of two or three years. The present house of worship was begun in 1834, and completed about 1836, the cost being $1,400. In 1843 twelve feet was added to its length, and a bell was purchased. In 1882 extensive repairs and improvements were made, including the addition of a baptistery, an expense of $800. The deacons have been Ephraim Fisk, Jonathan Harrington, Sampson Covil, Silas Slater, Bergen Slater, John A. Randall, Sampson B. Covil, John Murray, E. L. Barstow, Chauncey F. Barstow, Edward R. Oatley and Charles A. White. The church clerks have been N. Aldrich, P. Rowey, Samuel Bullock, N. A. Durree, Benjamin Brown, Sampson B. Covil, George Pray and E. A. Hill.

A Free Will Baptist church grew out of a union of elements at Foster and Killingly some time previous to 1840. Elder Daniel Williams preached in school houses in both places alternately till circumstances warranted starting a church here. Elder Wil-

liams began preaching about 1825, but did not continue to preach regularly for a long time after the church was built. Land was bought of Susannah Peckham in 1851, and the erection of a meeting house at once begun. The house was 30 by 40 feet on the ground and 15 feet high. It was completed during the year. Pastors Amos Redlon (in 1860), Cheeney, Burlingame, Bradbury, Baker, Isaac H. Coe and one Cortes (about 1865 and again in 1874), have at different times served the church. Elder Childs, the last regular minister, served about four years, up to 1887. Since then this church, with part of the other Baptist society, have sustained preaching part of the time by temporary supplies. They are now supplied by Reverend William H. Beard, of the Congregational church at South Killingly. The membership of the church numbers about one hundred and fifty.

From the heights of Chestnut hill across to the west side of the town, the Whetstone or Chestnut hill stream runs, carrying on its way a number of manufacturing establishments. It is a rapid running stream and in its upper course has a great fall, affording abundant power for driving mills. This has been improved to some extent, but not by any means to its full measure. The stream makes a descent of 175 feet in about a mile, carrying five mills on the way. We shall now notice the different mills on this stream.

The Chestnut Hill Mill stands at the upper end of one of the wildest and most precipitous gorges in the state. It has an available fall of twenty-seven feet. The mill was built about 1846 by Westcott & Pray. It fell into the hands of John Burgess, and afterward into the hands of Mayhew, Miller & Co., of Baltimore, Md. They leased it to Westcott & Pray, who ran it up to 1859. Mayhew Miller, a son of one of the former proprietors, was placed in charge, and continued until 1869. The senior Mr. Pray then, in 1869, bought it back, and Thomas Pray, Jr., ran it five years. The present owner, John L. Ross, toc[illegible] about 1874, and has run it since that time. Light sheetings, 6[illegible] 52 picks, are made. The mill is fitted with 104 forty-inch loo[illegible] and 6,000 spindles. About sixty hands are employed, and 25,0[illegible]rds a week are turned out. The building is of stone, 36 by [illegible] feet, four stories high, with two wings, one 49 by 37 feet, two [illegible]es, and the other 36 by 40 feet, two stories high. H. H. Ha[illegible]ll is the efficient superintendent.

Scarcely more than a stone's throw below the last mentioned are the Albion Mills, sometimes called Youngs' Mill. Here we find a remarkable fall of seventy-two feet available to this mill. It is devoted to the manufacture of cotton yarns, having 26 cards, 100 looms, 6,000 spindles, two steam boilers, besides two water wheels. The mill is in the hands of trustees—C. L. Tiffany, of New York, J. A. Williams, of Danielsonville; and George D. Handy, superintendent. This mill was one of the first built on this stream, the date of its origin being about 1815. It is owned by the heirs of Ebenezer Young, and has so been operated for years. The main building is about 50 by 75 feet, five floors, and two wings adjoin, one about 50 by 60, four floors, and the other 45 by 60, three stories high.

About one-fourth of a mile below, we come to the Whitestone Mills. This mill was first built by Westcott & Pray in 1858. The stream here affords an available fall of about thirty feet. The building is about 160 by 50 feet, four floors, with a two-story wing about 50 feet long. Connected with it are two stone buildings, each of which is a twelve-tenement house, three stories high. Cotton sheetings and baggings are made here. The mill has 150 looms and 8,032 spindles. Steam is used in connection with water power when necessary. The superintendent is Frank Mitchell.

About one-third of a mile below the last mentioned, we come to the Himes' or Robinson's Mill. This is a building about 160 by 50 feet on the ground, having three floors, and a wing of brick 30 by 40 feet, two stories high. The main mill is built of stone. Cotton is manufactured.

A short distance below are the Valley Mills, a building about 110 by 30 feet, four floors, which has been standing idle for the last year or two. Mr. A. W. Greenslit was superintendent, and the mill was furnished for the manufacture of print cloths, having 174 looms and 6,800 spindles.

This locality is known as Elliottville. A fall of some twenty-four feet is obtained here. A short distance below the last mentioned, we come to the Elliottville Mills of James P. Kendall, of which James Dixon is superintendent. It is a handsome stone building, about 40 by 75 feet, four floors, with a wing 40 by 50 feet, also four floors. Fine cotton yarns and warps are manufactured. The mill has 7,000 spindles.

A space of about two miles intervenes between the last mentioned and the next mill on the stream below. This is Sayles' Mill at Elmville. This is a brick and stone mill of four floors, in size about 40 by 100 feet. It is owned by the Sabin L. Sayles Company, of Dayville, as a branch of their more extensive works at that place.

About one-fourth of a mile below the latter is the Hopkins Mill. This is sometimes called the Exeter Mill. It is owned by Mr. T. E. Hopkins, and is employed in the manufacture of fancy cassimeres. It is furnished with five sets of cards, twenty-four broad looms, 1,680 spindles, and also has a dye house. Besides the water wheel it is provided with two steam boilers for emergency. The factory is a wooden building, about 150 by 40 feet and three stories high.

The Elmville Mills of C. D. & C. S. Chase, which occupy a site about one-fourth of a mile below the last, were started a long time ago. They were owned by Alfred Potter. About twelve years ago the mill was burned, it being a wooden building. A brick mill was then erected, 175 by 50 feet, having three floors. The present company have had possession of the mill since January 1st, 1886. The mill is furnished with four sets of cards and twenty-five broad looms. It has also a dye house. Fancy cassimeres are made. About 80 hands are employed and 150,000 yards annually produced.

The Attawaugan Manufacturing Company have three mills located on Five Mile river, in the northern part of the town of Killingly. Railroad connection is made at Dayville, about two miles below. It was organized in 1859. Mr. H. B. Norton, of Norwich, is president; L. Blackstone, of Norwich, secretary and treasurer, and W. L. Blackstone of the same city, agent. The superintendents are Calvin H. Frisbie and Chancy C. Chace. The company employ in these three mills about five hundred hands, running eight hundred and four looms and thirty-six thousand spindles. The products are fancy dress goods, sheetings, shirtings and cambrics. The president is about eighty years of age, and in possession of remarkable physical and mental vigor and business tact. The treasurer is about seventy-five years of age, and has traveled extensively. The corporation adopts a liberal policy toward its employés.

In the year 1859, Reverend L. B. Bates, as preacher in charge of the West Thompson M. E. church, formed a Methodist class

at Ballouville, and appointed Mr. Elisha Baker leader. The class at one time numbered forty-two members. During the summer of 1870 the Attawaugan Manufacturing Company built a commodious and attractive church edifice, and gave the use of the same to the people of Attawaugan, Ballouville, and the surrounding community for religious purposes. Notwithstanding the fact that the company were members of the Congregational church, Norwich, no denominational preferences were urged. The voice of the people was to decide what order of preaching should be adopted. In the autumn of 1870 this house of divine worship was dedicated with appropriate and impressive services. The dedicatory sermon was preached by Reverend Mr. Meriman, pastor of Second Congregational church, Norwich. The pastors of the evangelical churches in this and in the adjoining villages were present, and assisted in the exercises. Reverend Shadrach Leader represented the M. E. church, being stationed at the time at Danielsonville. The following January a Sunday school was organized, and Mr. Joseph Wheaton, a member of the Baptist church, Putnam, was elected superintendent.

In April, 1871, by request of the people, a preacher was sent by the Providence M. E. Conference, in the person of Reverend Nelson Goodrich. An attempt to organize a Union church proved unsatisfactory, and in March, 1872, the people decided to organize a Methodist Episcopal church in due form, and this decision was immediately carried into execution. The ten members composing it were John Aspinwall, Louisa J. Aspinwall, Elisha Baker, Mary Baker, Amanda A. Baker, Amy A. Baker, John O. Fisher, L. W. S. Fisher, Sarah Whidden and Laura Edwards.

Pastors to this church, beginning with April of each year have been as follows: Reverend W. W. Ellis, 1872-5; J. O. Dodge, 1875; C. Morse, 1876; C. Hammond, 1877; D. J. Griffin, 1878; R. D. Dyson, 1879; D. L. Brown, 1880; W. A. Luce, 1881; S. Sprowls, 1882; E. J. Ayres, 1883; O. A. Farley, 1884-6; William Kirkby, 1886; G. W. Wright, 1887-8; H. H. Moller, 1889. The membership of the church now numbers about one hundred. A Parish Association was formed in 1887, with Chancy C. Chace, president; Mrs. Almond Bosworth and Mrs. Thomas Holt, vice-presidents; and Calvin H. Frisbie, secretary and treasurer. The church building is not in the hands of trustees, but all the property associated with the church, including the church edifice,

Blackstone Hall and a parsonage, are owned by the Attawaugan Manufacturing Company.

Dayville lies in the northwestern part of the town of Killingly, on the Assawaga or Five Mile river. It has a population of about 1,500, and is in general a modern manufacturing village. The Norwich & Worcester railroad has a station here, and by that means this is made the shipping point for several manufacturing villages around, such as Williamsville, Attawaugan, Ballouville, Elmville and Chestnut hill. The railroad station is known as Dayville, but the post office is Killingly. It contains the woolen goods manufactory of the Sabin L. Sayles Company, the principal industrial institution, and two churches.

Business was started up here some forty or fifty years ago. Dayville was then commended for its neat appearance, and for a bridge composed of two finely constructed arches of stone, each 25 feet broad and 12 feet high. Captain John Day sold two-thirds of this privilege to Prosper and William Alexander, and joined with them in building and equipping a cotton factory, in 1832. Caleb Williams, of Providence, purchased the Quinebaug privilege, and erected a handsome building in 1827, at what is now Williamsville. This village started up with fresh vigor on the opening of the railroad. Mr. Ezekiel Webster was prominent in its early building up. He erected a hotel and many private dwellings, engaging also largely in the lumber trade, introducing a steam mill and lumber working machinery.

In 1846 Mr. John Day put up a new brick factory and carried on manufacturing till the destruction of the building in 1858, when the privilege and accommodations were purchased by Messrs. S. and H. Sayles, who built up extensive woolen manufactures. Sabin L. and Harris C. Sayles, of Pascoag, R. I., came here about twenty-five years ago. They began work with two small mills of two sets of carding machinery in each mill. This was on the Whetstone river. The business was enlarged in 1856, and two years later it was burned down. This was in 1858, and in sixty days after the fire a new mill was built by them at Dayville, ready to go to work, and containing four sets of machinery. This mill has been several times enlarged since that time, until it became a thirteen set mill. The growth of the business still requiring additional facilities, a new sixteen set mill was erected, and opened in March, 1883. This is a modern mill building, with model appliances for manufacturing. The new

mill is built of brick, and is 50 by 200 feet in size and five floors high, including one floor in the roof. The old firm of S. & H. Sayles was dissolved in 1879, by the retirement of H. C. Sayles, and in 1882 took the name of the Sabin L. Sayles Company, by the admission of Charles A. Russell into the business, which received a special act of incorporation in 1883, by which its capital stock is fixed at $200,000. The new corporation received the business and property of the former company in October, 1883. The officers of the new company were: Sabin L. Sayles, president; Charles A. Russell, treasurer; and Benjamin Cogswell, superintendent. The water power for this mill is supplied from a reservoir of 1,300 acres, with a fall of seventeen feet, and a Risdon water wheel of 190 horse power. A Wheelock engine of 175 horse power is kept in reserve for use in emergencies. The works now employ about 250 hands, and use about 500,000 pounds of wool annually, the product amounting to about 325,000 broad yards of cloth. Certain parts of the work are carried over at the Elmville mills, which are run in connection with this establishment.

The Dayville Congregational church was organized May 23d, 1849. Its constituent members were mostly dismissed from the three Killingly churches. The church had at first about thirty-five members, and for a time seemed to prosper. The former pastor of Danielsonville church (Westfield), Reverend Roswell Whitmore, served as pastor until 1857, completing a term of eight and a half years. By a change of the mill owners and the introduction of a new class of population the church suffered a decline. Only three or four of the original members are still living here. After Mr. Whitmore the church was supplied for a while. Reverend Daniel W. Richardson was settled here in the spring of 1862, and was dismissed in the fall of 1865. About that time the church had some seventy members. Reverend F. E. M. Bachelor served the church about two and one-half years. He had also been a supply previous to this time. John H. Melish came in the spring of 1868, and served the church as pastor for three years. In 1871 Mr. Bachelor returned again, remaining this time about two years. Reverend Edward S. Huntress was pastor from about 1879 to 1883. Reverend John Parsons served the church from the spring of 1883 to the fall of 1884. He was followed by Reverend Henry Kimball, who remained from 1884 to the fall of 1888. Reverend Mr. Flint, from Martha's Vine-

yard, commenced his pastorate in June, 1889. The meeting house was built in 1849. A parsonage was built in 1871. The present resident membership of the church numbers about twenty.

St. Joseph's Roman Catholic church stands in the west part of the village. Land for its site was donated by Sabin L. Sayles, the deed for the same being dated November 29th, 1881. The lot contains about three acres, and the church was built upon it soon after the date of the deed. This section was at first made a mission of the Danielsonville church. The first priest established here was Father Thomas Ariens, who had a parochial residence built about 1882. About the year 1886 the pastor was changed and Father T. J. Dunn took charge. He remains at the present time.

Marvin Waite Post, No. 51, G. A. R., was organized June 23d, 1880, with thirty-five charter members. It was named in honor of a son of Hon. John T. Waite, who held the office of lieutenant and was killed in the battle of Antietam. The post was organized in Dayville, and its first officers were: Albert W. Burgess, com.; James H. Rice, S. V. C.; James Adams, J. V. C.; Albert A. Arnold, adjt.; Thomas W. Stevenson, O. of D. The following have served successively as commanders of the post: Albert W. Burgess, 1880–81; James Rice, 1882; Thomas Stevenson, 1883; Newton Phillips, 1884–85; Henry E. Baker, 1886; Jabez R. Bowen, 1887; Alexander Bryson, 1888; Caleb Blanchard, 1889. The present membership is about thirty-five. The post meets in G. A. R. Hall in Webster's building. A Woman's Relief Corps, No. 31, is attached to it. This was organized in March, 1888. Miss Elizabeth M. Sayles has been president of it since its organization.

Assawaga Lodge, No. 20, A. O. U. W. (Ancient Order of United Workmen) was instituted at Dayville May 29th, 1883, with nineteen charter members. The first officers were: Day F. Lovett, past master workman; Charles J. Sweet, master workman; Newton Phillips, foreman; W. P. Kelly, receiver; Eugene Peck, overseer; F. W. Bennett, recorder; F. H. Cummings, financier. Successive master workmen have been: Charles J. Sweet, 1883; F. W. Bennett, 1884–85; Calvin H. Frisbie, 1886; A. H. Bosworth, 1887; Doctor H. L. Hammond, 1888; Charles E. Young, 1889. The present membership is about eighty. The lodge is in a flourishing condition. It has lost

two members by death—Charles J. Sweet and Benjamin Cogswell, the families of each of whom received $2,000 benefit from the lodge.

John Lyon Lodge, No. 45, Knights of Pythias, was organized at Dayville February 27th, 1888, with fifty members at the commencement. The lodge was named after Past Grand Chancellor Lyon, of the state, who had then recently died. The first officers were: H. L. Hammond, P. C.; W. H. Edwards, C. C.; John B. Tucker, V. C.; G. E. King. P.; James Purnett, M. of E.; E. M. Randall, M. of F.; F. J. Sayles, K. of R. & S.; George S. Brown, M. of A.; N. E. Bowen, I. G.; H. M. Burgess, O. G. The officers for the term beginning July, 1888, were: C. A. Stokes, C. C.; George S. Brown, V. C.; H. F. Harrington, P. Officers beginning January, 1889, were: George S. Brown, C. C.; H. F. Harrington, V. C., to May 7th, 1889, when he resigned and Thomas Richmond was elected in his stead; Fred. A. Hopkins, P. The lodge has a nicely furnished hall in Sayles' Building, called Pythian Hall. The furniture and equipments, including a cabinet organ, cost about $600, and the lodge has a financial showing of $900 in bank. It is in a prosperous condition, and the membership has now reached about seventy. Mr. H. S. Garcelon, of this lodge, is District D. G. C. for the Thirteenth district, which includes Danielsonville, Dayville and Putnam. The membership of the lodge includes nearly all the business men of the village and vicinity, including congressman Charles A. Russell and others of wide reputation.

Division No. 1, of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, was organized in May, 1888. The following officers were then elected, and they remain to the present time unchanged; William Pendergast, president; Henry Quinn, vice-president; Philip Moffatt, recording secretary; John J. Quinn, financial secretary; Peter Flinn, treasurer. The present membership of the lodge is about twenty.

At Williamsville on the Quinebaug, in the western border of the town, is a factory village, the initial factory of which was erected by Caleb Williams in 1827. That first mill was what is now the north wing of the mill, in size 144 by 44 feet and four stories high. After Williams the mill was owned by S. & W. Foster. In 1849 they formed a corporation composed of Samuel and William Foster and John Atwood. The company has remained to the present time, except that some of the owner-

ship has passed to the heirs of individual owners. The original Samuel Foster, however, is still the president and treasurer of the company. H. C. Atwood is now secretary and assistant treasurer. The present main building is 417 feet long by 49 feet wide and four stories high. Of the length of the building 165 feet was built in 1860, and the remaining 252 feet length was built in 1876. The entire building, old and new, is of stone. It contains 600 looms and 23,000 spindles. Cotton shirtings are manufactured. Water is used, and four steam boilers stand ready to do the work when the four water wheels fail to furnish power sufficient. H. C. Atwood is the superintendent of the works. The village which surrounds the mill belongs to the company. There are 105 tenements. A building for school and church has been built by the company for the village. A school is kept by the district in the basement, and the upper room is used for a church. The building was erected about 1868.

A Congregational church was organized here June 4th, 1883, with about thirty members. The first minister serving as pastor was Reverend E. S. Huntress, who served the church up to February, 1884. He was followed by Reverend A. C. Hurd, who came in May, 1884, and stayed till October, 1885. Reverend O. D. Hine began his ministry in December, 1885, and remains to the present time. The church has at present about thirty-five members. The Sunday school in connection with it numbers about sixty.

The borough of Danielsonville was created by an act of assembly in May, 1854. The boundaries given in the charter are as follows, comprising parts of the towns of Killingly and Brooklyn: "Beginning at a stake and stones southeast of the Kies tavern, so called, thence north 19¼ degrees east, four hundred and twenty-five rods, to a heap of stones on the north side of the road leading east from the house of David Fisher; thence north 67 degrees west, two hundred and four rods to a white oak tree on the north side of the road leading from Westfield to the house of Jacob Danielson, a little east of the bridge over Five Mile river; thence north 52¾ degrees west, thirty-eight rods on the north side of said road to a turn in the same; thence north 70 degrees west, eighty rods, to a heap of stones by a wall in Jacob Danielson's meadow; thence south 18¾ degrees west, four hundred and seventy-three rods and twelve links, to a stake

and stones eight rods southwest of the Cundall barn; thence south 71¾ degrees east, three hundred and seven rods and five links, to the first mentioned bound." The officers of the borough were to consist of a warden, six burgesses, a clerk, treasurer and bailiff, to be annually chosen on the second Monday in April. By the terms of the charter the first meeting of the borough was held at Rothwell's Hall, July 8th, 1854. Rothwell's Hall is now C. H. Bacon's furniture store.

In form the borough is nearly square; the easterly line is 425 rods long, the westerly line 473 rods, the southerly line 307 rods, and the northerly line 322 rods. It contains 883 acres, including ponds, rivers and all surfaces. The total length of streets in the borough is nine miles and seventy-four rods, all but 289 rods of which are on the Killingly side. In July, 1868, the legislature amended the charter so as to give the borough the supervision of street repairs, but in May, 1881, this right was relinquished to the towns. The streets were first named by the borough authorities May 22d, 1862, and the sidewalks laid out and established. The borough hall was built in May, 1868, at a cost of $2,700, the lot on which it stood costing $300 additional. The growth of the borough may be inferred from the following statistics. The number of houses and amount of taxable property in the borough at different dates have been as follows: 1855, 195, $176,680; 1862, 216, $225,156; 1867, 248, $862,589; 1870, 299, $1,104,426; 1875, 341, $1,131,895; 1880, 367, $1,129,563; 1884, 378, $1,215,786; 1889, 428, $1,350,110. There are in the borough forty-seven buildings, exclusive of dwellings, used as stores, school houses, churches, mills, shops and manufactories. In 1861 the population of the borough was 2,190. In 1885 it was 3,215. Of the last number the population on the Brooklyn side was 1,140, while that of the Killingly side was 2,075. Of the population of the borough Americans number 1,866, and French number 1,346. Of the Americans there are 267 on the Brooklyn side and 1,599 on the Killingly side. Of the French population there are 873 on the Brooklyn side, and 476 on the Killingly side. Of the American population in the borough there are 831 males and 1,035 females. Of the French population there are 582 males and 767 females. Of the American population 674 are under 21 years of age, and of the French population 872 are under 21 years of age.

The wardens of the borough have been as follows: George Danielson, 1854; A. D. Lockwood, 1855; Horatio Webb, 1856-61;

W. C. Tucker, 1862; E. L. Cundall, 1863–64; Samuel Hutchins, 1865; L. H. Rickard, 1866; Abner Young, 1867–68; Anthony Ames, 1869; B. F. Chapman, 1870–71; George Leavens, 1872–73; E. R. Burlingame, 1874; L. H Rickard, 1875–76; B. A. Bailey, 1877; Anthony Ames, 1878; L. H. Rickard, 1879; Thomas J. Evans, 1880; William H. Chollar, 1881; M. P. Dowe, 1882; Joshua Perkins, 1883–85; George Jencks, 1886; Frederick A. Jacobs, 1887; Sidney W. Crofut, 1888–89.

The borough clerks have been as follows: Amasa Dowe, 1854–56; Joshua Perkins, 1857–62; O. P. Jacobs, 1863–68; M. P. Dowe, 1869–71; C. N. Capron, 1872–75; C. H. Keach, 1876–80; E. L. Palmer, 1881–87; C. C. Young, 1888–89. The borough treasurers were William B. Tobey, 1854–55; William B. Knight, 1856–57; Joshua Perkins, 1858–62; O. P. Jacobs, 1863–68; M. P. Dowe, 1869–71; H. N. Clemons, 1872–73; C. N. Capron, 1874–75; C. H. Keach, 1876–80; E. L. Palmer, 1881–87; C. C. Young, 1888–89.

The borough at a very early date gave attention to protecting its people and their property against accidental fires. It was voted October 16th, 1854, that a fire engine should be purchased. The engine was purchased in Troy, N. Y., March 19th, 1855, at a cost of $990, and the burgesses named it the "Quinebaug." April 4th, 1855, the borough voted to purchase 500 feet of leather hose at 80 cents a foot. Minnetexit Fire Company was organized July 11th, 1855, and the name of the engine was changed to "Minnetexit," to correspond. A hook and ladder company was organized August 15th, 1855, with ten ladders and hooks, and the borough voted to purchase 300 feet of leather hose. Trucks for ladders and hooks were purchased in July, 1873, at a cost of $500. The steam fire engine, "Gen. Putnam," was purchased March 14th, 1878, of the Silsby Manufacturing Co., of Seneca Falls, N. Y., at a cost of $3,550.

In order to provide means for the successful operation of this apparatus the borough voted to build ten cisterns, August 21st, 1866; and September 15th, 1882, voted to build two more on the Brooklyn side, the first ten being on the Killingly side. These were built in the following locations: 1. Corner Mechanic and Academy streets; 2. Main street near Congregational church; 3. Main street near Logee's bakery; 4. Corner Main and North streets, near B. F. Chapman's; 5. Corner Mechanic and Oak streets, near William A. Chase's; 6. Reynolds street, near Thomas Bradford's; 7. Cottage street, near Bond street, near Loren Bates'; 8.

Corner Furnace and Franklin streets, near M. V. Woodworth's; 9. Broad street, near Christian hill; 10. Corner Winter and Spring streets, near Anthony Ames'; 11. Main street (Brooklyn side), near J. K. Green's; 12. Same street, near William Chapman's. No. 1 contained 447 hogsheads and cost about $500. The remaining eleven had each a capacity of 250 hogsheads, and cost $300 each. The borough is about to be supplied with water by the Crystal Water Company, of Boston, who are now at work putting in the pipes to supply the streets with water. A conduit from a reservoir, about three miles northeast of the borough, brings water down to the village, and another reservoir, on a hill near the village, is being constructed for high pressure purposes, to be used in cases of fire. This will give a pressure of seventy-five pounds to the square inch at the railroad crossing on Main street.

Street lights were established in May, 1882. The lamps and lamp posts, ninety-four in number, cost $7.25 each, and are owned by the borough. The burners are owned by the Globe Gas Light Company, who hold patents upon them. The lamps are lighted by this company for six cents per burner per night, for twenty nights every month. The Quinebaug Company owns and lights six gas lamps for the borough on the same terms, making a round hundred lamps lighted at the expense of the borough. Electric lights are now being talked of, and negotiations are pending which will probably give the borough the benefit of them very soon, perhaps by the time this work comes into the hands of its readers.

The village is named after a Mr. Danielson who built a grist mill at this place many years ago, some notice of which has already been given in another chapter. The present village is the growth of but half a century. In that time it has gained a remarkable degree of maturity. Its streets are well laid out, handsomely shaded and lined with neat and homelike residences, though but few of them are gorgeous in appearance. Upon the completion of the Norwich & Worcester railroad the depot became the central point about which the village was destined to grow up. Business and manufacturing began on the opposite side of the river, but came over to the railway station, where now we find a large number of stores, churches, hotels, banks and other institutions. The principal industrial support of the village is its manufacturing interest.

The largest establishment in this line, the Quinebaug mills, it is said furnishes the means of support for about one-third of the inhabitants of the village. The Quinebaug here is a powerful stream, and the Assawaga joins it at this point, in the lower part of the village. Very substantial bridges have been built over these streams at this place. An iron bridge over the Quinebaug was built a few years since, at a cost of about $9,000, the expense of which was divided between the towns of Killingly and Brooklyn. Mr. Ezekiel R. Burlingame was first selectman at the time and was instrumental in having it built. A stone arch bridge was built over the Assawaga, near its junction with the Quinebaug, at a cost of $5,000. This bridge was completed in the early part of 1889.

In the great flood of 1886 this town did not suffer so heavily as some other towns did, but the event was one which is not soon to be forgotten. An account given at the time draws the following picture:

"As long as they live, the youngest people of the present generation will never forget the exciting experiences of the great freshet of February, 1886. Early Friday evening the pouring warm rain upon the large amount of snow on the streets of the village, and the fields and roads in the vicinity, brought apprehension of a severe freshet to many minds, especially to the agents and others connected with the manufacturing corporations. By 10 o'clock Main street and the sidewalks were a river. At the corner of Spring street and near the Monument the water was high enough to cover rubber boots, and pedestrians who were out at that late hour reached their homes in the west part of the village with difficulty. Saturday morning the walks on either side of Main street were covered with light clay that must have come from a considerable distance.

"At early daylight a tide of people began to move toward the iron bridges across the Five Mile river, where the mad rushing waters seemed bent on the greatest possible amount of damage. Hundreds of people were at this spot all day, and one seemed fascinated as the surging tide rushed against the abutments and swept in a wild current over the dam, then under the bridges and dashed against the rocky impediments below. One crowd would leave the spot and move on to the Quinebaug river, where even a more fascinating spectacle would meet the eyes of the spectators, only leaving space for other groups; and so the pro-

cession kept passing through the day. The mills were stopped on account of back water, and in fact business of all kinds seemed to be suspended in the village for the day.

"Early in the day Selectman Burlingame sent a party out for two long timbers, and these were joined to the upper iron bridge by heavy chains, and this precaution was not taken any too soon, for in a few hours one side of that bridge began to settle. These heavy timbers alone saved it, and probably both, for if one had gone the other would probably have followed it. The loss will be only hundreds of dollars instead of thousands by this timely move.

"In the Quinebaug river the volume of water was immense, and as cakes of ice, wood and other heavy things struck the piers and embankments of that long bridge, there seemed danger that it might succumb to the furious assault, and that communication between Danielsonville and Brooklyn people—who have so many interests in common—would be imperiled for a season. And the danger began to be more imminent as the waters began to make a perceptible breach in the northwest embankment. By evening half of this embankment, reaching back more than a dozen feet, had been swept away, and the north side of the bridge hung over the river without any apparent support. The break, however, stopped, and the bridge is saved, to the surprise and gratification of the people of both towns. About noon, Saturday, the foot bridge across the Quinebaug river, belonging to the Quinebaug Company, after quivering for a time from the attack of ice, etc., gave way, and the debris went on its rapid course toward Long Island Sound. Water entered the old Tiffany Mill, belonging to the Quinebaug Company, until it was nearly three feet deep in the first story."

Great interest has been taken in the public schools of this village. Two graded schools are in operation, one in each town. Commodious brick buildings have been erected, one in each district. The borough on the east side of the Quinebaug is District No. 1, of Killingly, while that part of the borough which lies west of the river is No. 9, of Brooklyn. In the former there are about 537 scholars, and in the latter 347. The school in No. 1 is accommodated in a handsome brick building, built in the summer of 1871 at a cost of about $25,000. A high school, which is carried on in this building, belongs to the whole town, and receives pupils from any district in the town without charge. The

high school was opened December 6th, 1871, and the first class graduated from it in 1872. Up to the present time the total number of graduates has been 119. This school, including the graded school connected with it in the same building, employs ten teachers. The school in District No. 9, in Brooklyn, has an attendance of about three hundred, and employs five teachers. The building is a handsome brick structure, and was erected about the same time or a little previous to the other. The capacity of these schools is hardly sufficient for the growth of the village, but they will be relieved by the opening of the Catholic parochial school, which is to accommodate a large percentage of the foreign population.

Under the supposition that the remnant of the church which had worshipped in the Breakneck meeting house would recognize and allow their minister to hold services in it, some enterprising persons built a meeting house in the western part of Killingly, in 1798. But being disappointed in their expectations, they proceeded to organize a church in the western locality and cut loose from the old church. Doctor Penuel Hutchins and Mr. Robert Howe gave the building site for this new house. The organization of the church was effected by a council, of which Reverend Josiah Whitney was moderator, August 25th, 1801. It was called the Church of West Killingly. The following were its constituent members: Zadoc Spalding, Boaz Stearns, Abigail Stearns, Zadoc Hutchins, James Danielson, Penuel Hutchins, Samuel Stearns, Shubael Hutchins, Elizabeth Hutchins, Mary Stearns, Sarah L. Danielson, Hannah Spalding and Anna Kies. The first pastor of the church was Gordon Johnson of Farmington, ordained December 12th, 1804. It made but slow advances for several years. The only additional members during its first eleven years of existence were the pastor and four women.

Mr. Johnson was dismissed from the pastorate in 1809. His successor, Reverend Roswell Whitmore, son of an old Killingly family that had removed to Ashford, was ordained January 13th, 1813. Mr. Whitmore was a man of much life and energy, ready to engage in any form of Christian labor, and the church was rapidly built up. James Danielson and Shubael Hutchins were installed deacons in March, 1813. For many years the church increased in proportion to the growth of the surrounding villages, and enjoyed many seasons of special religious interest.

Its Sabbath school was among the oldest in the county, being organized and well established in 1820. Isaac T. Hutchins, one of some fifty converts who joined the church that year, was elected superintendent. Testaments furnished by the town Bible society served for text book and library. The sessions were chiefly occupied in reciting Scripture verses that had been committed to memory. The revival of 1832 brought into this church about one hundred and fifty members. Adam B. Danielson and Warren Stearns were chosen deacons in 1828. The various benevolent societies connected with this church were well sustained. Mr. Whitmore retained the pastorate until May 2d, 1843. He was succeeded by Reverend Thomas O. Rice, ordained January 1st, 1845, and dismissed March 25th, 1856. Reverend Thomas T. Waterman was installed as pastor here January 18th, 1858, and dismissed January 30th, 1861. Reverend William W. Davenport was ordained August 21st, 1861, dismissed September 30th, 1868. Reverend Jeremiah Taylor was installed May 12th, 1869, and dismissed December 30th, 1871. Reverend Adelbert F. Keith was installed October 13th, 1874, and dismissed May 15th, 1877. Reverend James Dingwell has been pastor from December 1st, 1877, to the present time.

Stowell L. Weld, William H. Chollar and John Waldo were elected deacons March 27th, 1862. Elisha Danielson was elected deacon April 13th, 1866; John D. Bigelow December 28th of the same year; and Joseph W. Stone January 13th, 1875. The second meeting house, the present house of worship, was built in 1855.

A new pipe organ, costing about $4,000, was put into the church in 1887. A parsonage was built about the year 1876. The present membership of the church is about 350.

The beginnings of the Methodist Episcopal church of Danielsonville are traced to the little workshop of a shoemaker, who located in this neighborhood when the village was yet in its early infancy. Attracted by the sign of this artisan, an itinerant preacher on his rounds called to ask a night's lodging. Thus, in the autumn of 1839, Reverend John Lovejoy, while on his way from Lowell to New London, was the guest of Marcus Childs, and here he preached and formed a class. The names of those enrolled in this class were Edwin Dunlap, Julia J. Dunlap (wife of the former), Hearty Douglass, Chloe Childs and Fidelia Frizzell. A tradition is also preserved that Reverend

Mr. Lovejoy had once, as early as the year 1830, preached in a house belonging to Jared Brainard, which stood near the old "Furnace Lot." Of the progress of this early class little is known, but in September, 1840, Reverend Hezekiah Thatcher, of the Plainfield circuit, preached and formed a class of thirteen members, whose names were as follows: Edwin Dunlap (who was appointed leader), Julia J. Dunlap, Hearty Douglass, Jared Brainard, Maria Brainard, Parmelia Brainard, Othniel Young, Eliza Young, Harriet Young (later the wife of John H. Keech), Mary Young, Marcus Childs, Chloe Childs and John H. Keech. Calvin Brainard, Charles H. Brainard and a Miss Cummings joined it soon after. Edwin Dunlap, the first leader, continued in that position, with the exception of about one year, until his death, which took place October 26th, 1873.

Reverend Hezekiah Thatcher, who formed the class, was engaged in fulfilling a contract to carry the mail from Plainfield to Canterbury, and while in the discharge of that duty, on the 4th of July, 1841, while in the act of crossing the railroad, just above the Plainfield depot, he was struck by the locomotive, and received injuries from which he died, after lingering in an unconscious condition about twenty-four hours.

Previous to June, 1842, Reverend Azariah B. Wheeler of Plainfield, and Reverend Stephen Hammond preached here more or less regularly to the Methodist people, services being held in a school house, which has since been converted into a dwelling house, standing on the corner of Furnace and Cottage streets. Later meetings were held in the "Conference room," and in a freight house and in "Tavern Hall." While using the freight house for meetings a great revival was experienced, and some sixty persons were converted. The name of Reverend Stephen Hammond is mentioned with great respect in connection with the early history of this church. He was a practical blacksmith living at Pomfret, and being a local preacher, served this church with unselfish devotion, earnest effort and but very insignificant financial compensation.

Steps were now taken toward the erection of a house of worship. Captain Samuel Reynolds offered a very elligible site, which was accepted, and the erection of the house commenced, under the efficient direction of General L. E. Baldwin, now of Willimantic. The contract being made July 4th, 1842, the building was completed, and dedicated on the 30th of September fol-

lowing. The whole cost, amounting to $3,200, was provided for in advance by the sale of slips and voluntary subscriptions. This house is still in use by the church, occupying its original site. The church was organized in 1842, while the circuit was in charge of Reverend George May. The house of worship was enlarged in 1851, and in the following year a vestry was finished under the west end of the building. At that time the membership reached one hundred and sixty-seven. During the years 1867 and 1868 the church was repaired and a new bell was added, the expense of all amounting to about eight thousand five hundred dollars. The membership at that time had increased to one hundred and eighty-five. A parsonage was built on the church lot about 1873, and a pipe organ added to the furniture of the church about the same time. The cost of the former was nearly four thousand dollars and the value of the latter about one thousand.

At the anniversary of the first forty years of existence of this church, which was celebrated with much enthusiasm in 1882, it was learned that during the period spoken of the church had raised for church and benevolent purposes $59,250. It had gained a church property valued at $18,500; organized an adult missionary society in 1848, and a juvenile society in the following year; raised for missionary uses $3,179.56; paid into the treasury of the American Bible Society enough to give more than a thousand Bibles to the destitute; gathered over seven hundred children into the Sabbath school, the number at one time swelling as high as three hundred; had eight hundred conversions under its care; received six hundred and ninety members to its communion, the greatest membership at any one time being two hundred and twenty-four. The pastors during this period were as follows; 1841, Stephen W. Hammond; 1842, George May; 1843-4, John Howson; 1845-6, Benjamin C. Philps; 1847-8, John Livsey; 1849-50, Samuel W. Coggeshall; 1851-2, Sidney W. Dean; 1852, Henry S. White; 1853-4, Lorenzo Dow Bentley; 1855-6, W. S. Simmons; 1857-8, Lorenzo W. Blood; 1859-60, George W. Brewster; 1861-2, Anthony Palmer; 1863-4, Carlos Banning; 1865-6, William H. Stetson; 1867-8, George W. Brewster; 1869, Norris G. Lippitt; 1870-71, Shadrach Leader; 1872-4, George E. Fuller; 1875-6, George W. Anderson; 1877, Norris G. Lippitt; 1878, S. Olin Benton; 1879, R. W. C. Farnsworth; 1880-81, Robert Clark;

1882-85, Joseph H. James; 1885-87, John Oldham; 1887-89, F. L. Hayward; 1889, G. A. Morse.

Services according to the Episcopal forms were held in a hall for some time previous to 1863. Reverend Mr. Wellman officiated in this missionary work. Reverend Charles C. Adams followed him, about 1864, remaining until 1866, during which time steps were taken to obtain a house of worship. The West Killingly Academy, an institution which had been blessed with but a limited degree of prosperity and was now for sale, was purchased of the proprietors by John V. Lewis, July 31st, 1865, for $1,400, including about three-fourths of an acre of ground. It stood where it now stands, at the head of Academy street, and on the east side of Broad street. The lot and building were transferred from Lewis to C. C. Adams, December 2d, 1865, for $1,300; and by the latter it was transferred to the Trustees of Donations and Bequests for the use and benefit of the First Ecclesiastical Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the town of Killingly known as St. Albans' church, December 21st, 1866, for the sum of $3,000. By this time the church was in good working order, and the building was probably occupied during that year, the necessary changes and improvements in the interior having been made. Reverend W. N. Ackley officiated as rector from 1866 to 1870. He was followed by Reverend George Coggeshall, whose term of service extended from December, 1870, to July, 1871. Reverend Alfred S. Rice commenced his service here in June, 1872, and continued for a year or two. He was followed by Reverend Arthur T. Parsons, of whose coming we have not the date. He closed his pastorate about 1882, and then for about two years the church was without a pastor. Reverend George R. Warner became rector in July, 1884, and remained until May, 1889. He was followed in June, 1889, by Reverend Cornelius G. Bristol, of Milford, Conn. The church at present has about eighty communicants.

The Baptist church of Danielsonville has a handsome Gothic and Queen Anne house of worship on the corner of Broad and Academy streets. The church was organized February 5th, 1874. Sometime in the April preceding, Reverend R. Turnbull, D. D., superintendent of the work of the Connecticut Baptist State Convention, visited Danielsonville in company with Reverend Charles Willett, who had shortly before closed his pastorate of the Baptist church in Putnam; the purpose of their visit

being to decide on the advisability of organizing a church. They decided that much had been lost already on account of delay, and that steps should be immediately taken to gather the Baptists together and form a society.

Liberty Hall, conveniently located on Oak street, was secured, and the first meeting was held May 11th, 1873, at which Doctor Turnbull preached. A good congregation was in attendance and by a nearly unanimous vote decided that they desired a Baptist church, and a committee consisting of Henry Westcott, Daniel G. Sherman, William M. Johnson and W. W. Woodward, was appointed to secure a place for meeting and make all necessary arrangements for regular services. For this purpose the hall already mentioned was obtained. Doctor Turnbull preached again the following Sunday, and after that the work was left to the care of Reverend Mr. Willett, who preached Sundays and hunted up Baptists during the week. The mission proved very successful, and on February 5th, 1874, at a meeting called for the purpose, forty-two persons constituted themselves a Baptist church. At a subsequent meeting March 5th, 1874, the following officers were elected: W. W. Woodward, clerk; Henry Westcott, William Johnson and H. A. Brown, prudential committee; and on March 25th, the church was publicly recognized as a Baptist church, by a council composed of delegates from the Baptist churches of East Killingly, Putnam, Brooklyn, Willimantic, Packerville, Union Plainfield, and the following ministers, who were present by special invitation: Reverends R. Turnbull, D. D., Hartford; J. P. Brown, New London; R. Bennett and C. P. Borden, Central Thompson; and J. W. Dick, Woodstock. The recognition sermon was preached by Reverend John Davies, of Norwich, and the prayer of recognition was by Reverend T. Terry, of Brooklyn.

From the time of its organization the growth of the church has been steady and substantial, there having been additions to its membership every year of its existence. The present membership is about two hundred. It has had but three pastors. Reverend Charles Willett continued as missionary pastor until March 28th, 1875. Reverend William C. Carr was called to the pastorate in June, 1875, began his labors October 10th, and was ordained November 11th. His pastorate continued until May 6th, 1883. In October of the same year Reverend F. L. Knapp,

the present pastor, was called, and commenced his work with the church on January 6th, 1884.

The church continued to worship in Liberty Hall until May 4th, 1879, when the present house was dedicated. The building is a very attractive and convenient structure, and seats 350. It has two vestries, one of which can be readily opened into the audience room, giving an additional capacity of about 150. The house is also supplied with baptismal font, robing rooms, etc. It has two beautiful memorial windows, one contributed by Mr. H. F. and Miss A. E. Westcott, in memory of their father and mother, Henry and Almira Westcott. There is also a beautiful window contributed by the Sunday school.

Special mention should be made in this connection of Mr. Henry Westcott, without whose hearty interest and liberal gifts the church would hardly have been organized or its attractive house have been built. His death occurred before the house was completed, but not until he had contributed fully one-half of the entire cost. Shortly after his death, in a letter to the annual meeting of the Ashford Baptist Association, occurs this testimony: "From the first, he, more than anyone else has borne our young church upon his heart, and supported it with his influence, his sympathy and his means, and his loss is more to us than we can express in words."

The Second Advent church was organized in 1858, as the result of a protracted meeting, held by Elders Miles Grant, of Boston, and S. G. Mathewson, who came to this place at the invitation of Doctor Daniel Jones. Soon after this a man by the name of Brown built a chapel for the sect. This was located on Winter street, and is now a part of the St. James Catholic church, the building being sold soon after the death of Mr. Brown. The church after that held services in Rothwell Hall for a time. In 1866 the present chapel on Academy street was built, under the direction and by efforts of Elder H. F. Carpenter, who was pastor of the church at two different times. Elders William Fenn, James Hemenway, Marshall Phettyplace, C. W. Dockham, W. N. Tenney and A. S. Williams have served the church as pastors, and a considerable part of the time the church has had temporary supplies for a few Sundays at a time. Elder Dockham was pastor three years, closing his labors November 2d, 1884. He was succeeded by Elder W. N. Tenney, who served from December 5th, 1884, to May 2d, 1886. Elder A. S. Williams was

pastor from December 1st, 1886, to April 1888. The membership of the church, reaching nearly one hundred at one time, has been reduced by death and removals, until it is now only about thirty-five. Several notable revivals have visited the church, an important one being conducted by Mrs. E. L. Crumb, ten or twelve years ago.

St. James' Roman Catholic church had its beginning here in the labors of Father McCabe, a Franciscan monk from Ireland, who was the pioneer priest of this county. Jesuit missionaries from Boston had visited this region occasionally, passing through perhaps two or three times a year, and saying mass in the towns on the way. The mission of Father McCabe extended beyond this county as far as Colchester. He began his work here in 1851. The first mass said by Father McCabe was in a house on Franklin street, by Five Mile river. Afterward services were held in Bacon's Hall. Father McCabe died in Danielsonville, about 1863. John Quinn succeeded him as pastor of this church. Father Quinn made his residence at Moosup, and this church then became a mission. The Second Advent chapel, and the lot upon which it stood, were private property, and were now purchased by Father Quinn, of Sally D. Brown, August, 29th, 1864, and that became the nucleus of St. James' church, as it is to-day, the Advent chapel being the transept of the present structure. The front part of the building was added during the pastorate of Father Quinn, who also bought additional land adjoining on the north, of Elisha Chamberlin, July 3d, 1869. This extended to the corner of Hutchins and Mechanic streets, and the parochial residence was soon after built upon it by Father Quinn. In September, 1869, Father Princen, a Belgian priest, followed as parish priest of St. James. The cemetery ground, comprising several acres, a short distance northwest of the church, was bought by Father Quinn, and in November, 1870, this and the church lots were transferred by him to St. James' Catholic church. Father Princen built the sanctuary and vestry to the church. He remained here until his death, which occurred in April, 1883. Father Preston (Thomas J.) began his pastorate in 1883, and is still in charge. He has had the church remodelled and renovated, and in 1886 cleared of a debt amounting to about $6,000, since which time the church has been free of debt. He has had erected at a cost of about $11,000, includ-

ing lot, a building for a parochial school. The lot, which contains about two and one-half acres, was purchased of Betsey H. Ely, March 7th, 1877. A handsome building, two story and mansard roof, has been erected upon it, and the school will open in September, 1889. Six teachers, besides the principal, will be employed, and the school will accommodate about 350 pupils. It will be conducted by the Sisters of St. Joseph. All the modern languages will be taught, as well as fancy work, drawing and music. English will be the prominent language in the school. Protestant children will be admitted free to the common branches as well as Catholic children, and to the higher branches and the languages by the payment of the necessary fees.

There are in the parish of St. James about 1,300 French Canadians and 500 Irish. Hampton and Brooklyn are both missions of this church. Mass is said in the town hall at the latter place. Another mission is maintained at Chestnut hill, where there are about 150 French and a few Irish. Mass is said there in a hall. In Brooklyn and Hampton missions there are about 250 Irish. There are connected with the church several societies. A St. John Baptist Society numbers about 100; a society of the Knights of Columbus has 53 members; the Children of Scapular Society numbers 60; the society of the Children of Mary has about 70 young ladies; a St. Ann's Society has 51 members; a St. Alyosious Society contains a membership of 40; and an Infant Jesus Society contains about 150 children.

The First National Bank of Killingly was organized in 1864. It commenced business June 2d, of that year, with a capital of $55,000. It commenced its banking business September 1st, 1864. Its officers then were Hon. Elisha Carpenter, president, and H. N. Clemons, cashier. It soon doubled its capital, making its limit $110,000, which remains unchanged at the present time. The first board of directors were Elisha Carpenter, Arnold Fenner, Henry Hammond, Abner Young, William Dyer, Harvey S. Bartlett, Edwin Ely, George Leavens, John Atwood. The president of the bank was the same as at the beginning until September 13th, 1864, when he removed to Hartford, and Arnold Fenner was elected to take his place. He continued as president till January 10th, 1871. From that date to the present time, Henry Hammond has filled the position. The office of cashier has suffered no change from the beginning. The pres-

ent board of directors are Henry Hammond, Abner Young, Silas Hyde, H. N. Clemons, William H. Chollar, William A. Johnson, Lorin Bates, R. R. James, T. E. Hopkins. July 2d, 1888, the bank paid its forty-fifth dividend. Up to that time it had paid to its stockholders in dividends $220,000, just double the amount of its capital. The amount of its deposits November 3d, 1888, was $112,322.32. The bank occupies elegant rooms in the Music Hall building, on the second floor, over the post office.

Windham County Savings Bank was incorporated in May, 1864. Its incorporators were William James, George Danielson, Edwin Ely, Orville M. Capron, Hezekiah L. Danielson, Samuel Reynolds, Horatio Webb, Willard Leavens, Freeman James, Edwin Dunlap, Henry Hammond, John Snow, Jr., William Alexander, Marvin A. Dexter, Amos D. Lockwood, Daniel P. Tyler, Elisha Danielson, William B. Wright, Lysander Warren, William Humes, Frederick P. Coe, Henry Hutchins. The first officers, elected July 26th, 1864, were: William James, president; Henry N. Clemons, secretary and treasurer. The president continued in office till July 11th, 1870, when George Danielson was elected to that office. He was followed by William H. Chollar, July 29th, 1875. Hezekiah Danielson was made president August 3d, 1875. John G. Bigelow became president July 10th, 1876, continuing until he was succeeded by William H. Chollar, the present incumbent, July 13th, 1885. The office of secretary and treasurer has been filled by the following: Henry N. Clemons, July 26th, 1864, to August 3d, 1875; William H. Chollar, to July 10th, 1876; Anthony Ames, to July 13th, 1886; Chauncey C Young, to the present time. Anthony Ames is vice-president, and the following are trustees: Lysander Warren, Samuel S. Waldo, Rowland R. James, Edward H. Jacobs, Sidney W. Crofut, Thomas J. Evans, James Perkins. The first deposit was made September 17th, 1864. The last report shows the total number of depositors, 2,029, and the total deposits $530,198.63. The bank occupies a room in the building on the west side of Main street, which was built by the bank soon after the commencement.

Danielsonville can boast of one of the finest buildings for public entertainments that can be found in Windham county. Music Hall was built by a joint stock company, organized under the general state law, the shares being $25 each. The building was erected in 1876. The capital stock of the company was

$20,000, but the building was erected at a cost of $38,000. It has a handsome front of pressed brick, with iron facings, pillars, projections and ornaments. The audience room, which is on the ground floor, easy of access, has stage and gallery, and will seat 800 persons. When John B. Gough lectured in it there were 1,000 persons in it, by some dint of crowding. It has movable chairs, so that the floor can be easily cleared for any purpose that requires it. The building is three stories high, with another story in the Mansard roof. The ground floor in front is occupied by a store on one side and post office on the other side of the entrance hall. The second floor is occupied by the Killingly National Bank and offices. The third floor is occupied by Armory Hall, and in the fourth story or Mansard roof is Grand Army Hall. The ground covered by the building is about 60 by 130 feet.

The People's Library is an institution in which the intelligent people of the village take considerable interest. It was started as a Young Men's Library about thirty-five years ago. From small beginnings it has increased in size until it now has about 2,500 volumes. It has a room on the second floor of Music Hall building, and is kept open during certain hours of certain days of the week. It is supported by funds raised by membership fees and dues. The association has three classes of members: life members, who pay $3 for admission and 50 cents annually, and are entitled to vote; annual members, who simply pay 50 cents a year; and honorary members, who are made so on payment of $15. The last two have rights to the use of books, but not to vote. The association has a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and a board of six directors. Mrs. Anthony Ames has for several years been its librarian.

The Quinebaug Manufacturing Company's mills, in the southern part of this village, are one of the largest manufacturing establishments in the county. They are delightfully situated on the right bank of the beautiful Quinebaug river, on elevated ground, and are surrounded by nearly two hundred well constructed and nice looking brick tenement houses. Their grounds cover more than ninety acres, and from the windows of the various buildings the view is enchanting. The mills proper are designated as No. 1 and No. 2. No. 1, or the oldest mill, was built by Mr. Tiffany, the father of the celebrated New York jeweler, over a half century ago. It has lately, however, been

entirely reconstructed, with new machinery throughout. This mill is of wood, and is the first one approached from the town. No. 2 is of stone, is a massive structure, and with its great wings and extensions, covers a large amount of ground. It would require a large amount of space to describe all the interesting details—we will have to generalize. The dimensions of the latter named mill are as follows: main building, 343 by 48 feet; south wing, 160 by 52 feet; picker house, 93 by 41 feet; west addition, 122 by 48 feet; north wing, 152 by 48 feet; roller shop, 124 by 20; weave shed, 450 by 102. No. 1 mill is 200 by 30 feet in area, and has a power of 100 horses, while No. 2 has that of 900 horses. These works are run by water power, but steam engines of equal power as named for water are on hand in case of necessity. There are 54,736 spindles and 1,400 looms, and the number of employees is about 800, the pay rolls of whom amount to over $19,000 every four weeks. The number of yards manufactured per year is over 3,000,000, and consists of sheetings of different widths and weights.

This company was incorporated in 1851, and the present officers are: R. C. Taft, president; John W. Danielson, treasurer; B. A. Bailey, agent. The nominal capital is $500,000, and the stock is mostly owned in Providence. Mill No. 2 was built over twenty-five years ago. This company own a large store, which has for its customers others beside the operatives. The operatives are all paid in cash, and there are but about one-third who avail themselves of the discount, for all are at liberty to trade where they will. About three-quarters of the operatives of this great corporation—the Quinebaug Company—are French Canadians, one-eighth are Irish, and the balance scattering. They all seem contented and happy, and we learned from the residents of the town that they are an orderly and thrifty class.

The Quinebaug Grist Mill is located at the junction of the Five Mile river with the Quinebaug. It was established by the Quinebaug Company in 1879, is run by water, and has a storage capacity of 15,000 bushels. It is supplied with improved machinery for the manufacture of buckwheat flour. During the season about 1,000 bushels of this grain a week are ground up.

In 1852 Eleazar Baker came to this town from Massachusetts, and began the manufacture of reeds at Dayville. In 1854 he moved the business to Danielsonville. In 1858 he sold the business to William S. Short, who ran the same till his death in 1865.

Mr. Baker then re-purchased the business and continued in it until November, 1870, when he sold it to R. S. Lathrop. The latter in 1881 built a brick mill on the east bank of the Five Mile river, near the railroad station, where the business has been continued since that time. It is still owned by Mr. Lathrop's heirs, and is now managed by his son, H. V. Lathrop.

The Danielsonville Cotton Company's works are situated between the Quinebaug and the Five Mile rivers. They consist of three mills proper, and are a continuation of the Danielsonville Company, founded over seventy years ago. One of the mills, called the old one, is a frame building, erected in 1816, and is still used for various purposes. The stone structure about seventy feet distant from the first named, and on the same side of the street, was built later, while the large brick mill opposite was constructed in 1868. This mill is 219 by 78 feet, four stories and a basement. The picker room is 63 by 43 feet, two stories. The boiler house adjoining is 40 by 40 feet, and the engine room 18 by 52 feet. The office is 31 by 42 feet, two stories and basement. The motive power is furnished by water, the facilities having a capacity available to the extent of 350 horse power. Steam engines are also in reserve in case of need. The present company was organized in 1880, and they have a capital of $175,000. The officers are: B. B. Knight, president; Jeffrey Hazard, treasurer, and A. J. Gardiner, superintendent. In these mills are 17,024 spindles and 384 looms. They manufacture prints, sheetings and shirtings. About 4,500,000 yards are turned out annually. About 300 hands are employed. The establishment in general indicates the presence and direction of a master hand, and such we find in the business qualifications and courteous manners of its superintendent.

The Assawaga Mill of E. Pilling & Co. is on School street, nearly across the block, in rear of the Attawaugan House. It is now called the Aspinock Knitting Company. It employs about forty hands in the manufacture of seamless half hose and other knit goods, cotton and woolen. It is furnished with 50 knitting machines. The business was started in the spring of 1883. The mill is well supplied with the most improved kinds of machinery, and the reputation of the work is built upon a careful and honest foundation.

Near the last mentioned are the works of Messrs. E. H. Jacobs & Co., manufacturers of loom harness, belting and hose. The

works were a few years since removed to this place from Pawtucket, R. I. The mill has an area of 5,000 square feet of floor surface. Making and repairing leather belting, loom strapping, pickers and mill supplies in general, are among the branches of work done. The "Challenge" hose carriage, a very popular apparatus all over New England, is manufactured here. About one hundred sets per day of finished loom harness are also manufactured here.

The Quinebaug Brick Company hail from Danielsonville, though their works are about two miles from the village center, in the town of Brooklyn. They make some four million bricks annually, which are shipped from Danielsonville by railroad to points in southern New England. The bricks are reckoned as first quality in all respects, as the fact that they are used in some of the largest manufacturing and storage buildings and other important structures, abundantly testifies. Sabin L. Sayles is president of the company; Hon. Charles A. Russell, treasurer; Charles R. Palmer, resident agent, and George Benjamin, overseer.

The principal hotel of this village is the Attawaugan, a house of liberal proportions and well furnished appointments. It was built in 1856. The first manager was Henry Peckham, who ran it a few months. Since that time it has been run by the present proprietor, Lewis Worden. The house has forty-one large and well lighted lodging rooms, and its arrangements in general are excellent and commodious.

Moriah Lodge, No. 15, is the lineal descendant of the old Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons which we have already noticed in connection with Canterbury, where its principal early headquarters were. The lodge had the honor of being Number 1, that is, the first lodge instituted in the state of Connecticut. It was instituted in 1790. At first it had what was called a roving charter, which allowed it to move about and hold meetings in different towns to accommodate circumstances. In its early membership it embraced some of the leading men of the county, which are more particularly mentioned in connection with Canterbury. At the time of the Morgan excitement, a remarkable era in Masonic history, the charter was given up and action of the lodge suspended for a few years. Afterward it was revived, but the honorable number was lost, and the lodge was numbered 15. Its home for many years has been in Danielsonville, where it now

meets in a room in the Exchange Building. The present officers are: M. A. Shumway, W. M.; George R. Warner, S. W.; A. P. Somes, J. W.; F. T. Preston, treasurer; Anthony Ames, secretary; E. W. Hayward, S. D.; John W. Day, J. D.; Hosea E. Green, S. S.; George C. Foote, J. S.; E. L. Palmer, chaplain; H. F. Clark, marshall; E. S. Carpenter, tyler; J. F. Seamans, O. W. Bowen and F. W. Franklin, auditors.

Growing out of this lodge are Warren Chapter, No. 12, Royal Arch Masons, and a council of R. & S. Masters. The chapter was chartered in 1812. Its present officers are: M. A. Shumway, M. E. H. P.; George R. Warner, E. K.; Henry F. Clark, E. S.; F. T. Preston, treasurer; J. F. Seamans, secretary; H. H. Green, C. of H.; C. E. Hill, P. S.; F. A. Shumway, R. A. C.; Jarvis Wallen, 3d veil; C. H. Frisbie, 2d veil; E. W. Scott, Jr., 1st veil; E. S. Carpenter, tyler; H. H. Green, C. H. Keach, H. F. Clark, auditors. Montgomery Council, No. 2, Royal and Select Masters, was chartered in 1818. Their present officers are: H. H. Green, T. I. M.; C. E. Hill, I. D. M.; M. A. Shumway, I. P. C.; F. T. Preston, treasurer; J. F. Seamans, R.; H. F. Clark, C. of G.; F. A. Shumway, C. of C.; C. H. Keach, steward; Reverend George R. Warner, chaplain; E. S. Carpenter, sentinel; W. E. Hyde, H. F. Clark, E. L. Palmer, auditors.

McGregor Post, No. 27, G. A. R., was organized at Danielsonville, July 1st, 1868. Its charter members were: Frank Burroughs, S. C. Chamberlin, H. O. Bemis, D. S. Simmons, P. G. Brown, A. F. Bacon, C. W. James, Charles Burton, H. B. Fuller, H. K. Gould. The first officers were as follows: Frank Burroughs, C.; S. C. Chamberlin, S. V. C.; S. M. Howard, J. V. C.; H. B. Fuller, adjutant; G. W. Bartlett, Q. M.; E. M. Eldridge, chaplain. The office of commander has been held by the following persons: Frank Burroughs, David M. Colvin, U. B. Schofield, William E. Hyde, D. S. Simmons, E. J. Mathewson, William E. Hyde, Frank Burroughs, E. S. Nash, H. F. Clark, B. E. Rapp, S. M. Woodward, Charles Burton, J. W. Randall, H. F. Clark. The post has a commodious room in Music Hall building. Its present membership is sixty-four. The present officers are: H. F. Clark, C.; Nathan Seaver, S. V. C.; T. H. Stearns, J. V. C.; S. M. Woodward, adjutant; U. B. Scofield, Q. M.; L. B. Arnold, surgeon; Reverend James Dingwell, chaplain.

Quinebaug Lodge, No. 34, I. O. O. F., was instituted at Danielsonville, February 13th, 1889. The charter members were:

Newton Phillips, Walter F. Bliven, John B. Hopkins, C. F. Chapman, Reuben Pilling, Jr., A. A. Boswell, A. W. Dean, John H. Perry, James P. Carver, Henry E. Baker, John E. Bassett, Frank A. Prince and Edward Fairman. The lodge meets on Tuesday nights, in Knights of Pythias Hall, in the Savings Bank building. The officers elected for this, the first year, were: Newton Phillips, N. G.; Frank Prince, V. G.; Walter Bliven, secretary; John E. Bassett, treasurer; A. W. Dean, R. S. N. G.; John Perry, L. S. N. G.; Henry Baker, R. S. V. G.; James B. Carver, L. S. V. G.; Reuben Pilling, Jr., W.; A. A. Boswell, C.; Charles Chapman, R. S. S.; W. DeLoss Wood, L. S. S.; J. B. Hopkins, I. G.; Frank Willard, O. G.

Orient Lodge, No. 37, Knights of Pythias, was instituted here December 19th, 1877. The charter members were: E. L. Palmer, T. W. Greenslit, C. H. Bacon, N. W. James, W. N. Thomas, F. A. Jacobs, H. F. Logee, F. P. Warren, C. E. Woodis, O. L. Jenkins, A. J. Ladd, S. L. Adams and C. L. Fillmore. The first officers were: E. L. Palmer, P. C.; T. W. Greenslit, C. C.; C. H. Bacon, V. C.; N. W. James, P.; A. J. Roberts, M. of E.; W. N. Thomas, M. of F.; F. A. Jacobs, K. of R. & S.; H. F. Logee, M. at A.; F. P. Warren, I. G.; C. E. Woodis, O. G. The present membership is about fifty. The numbers have been depleted by the formation of John Lyon Lodge, at Dayville, in 1888, their membership withdrawing from this lodge. The trustees are: F. A. Jacobs, C. H. Bacon and N. W. James. The lodge meets on Thursday evenings, at their hall in Savings Bank building.

Ætna Lodge, No. 21, A. O. U. W., was instituted here June 21st, 1883, with sixteen charter members. The first officers were: A. P. Somes, P. M. W.; A. G. Bill, M. W.; C. E. Woodis, foreman; C. A. Potter, overseer; E. Pilling, recorder; B. L. Bailey, financier; F. B. Brooks, receiver; C. M. Adams, guide; A. F. Wood, I. W.; F. G. Bailey, O. W. The following have successively held the office of M. W.: A. G. Bill, balance of 1883; C. E. Woodis, 1884; C. M. Adams, 1885; R. A. Bailey, 1886; A. P. Somes, 1887; C. H. Bacon, 1888; Irving Hawkins, 1889. The following have been successive recorders: E. Pilling, to January 1st, 1885; F. B. Brooks, 1885 and 1886; C. H. Bacon, 1887; A. P. Somes, 1888; F. U. Scofield, 1889. The lodge now numbers fifty-three. It has lost but one member since its organization—Hosea Green, who died March 5th, 1889. The lodge meets the first and

third Wednesday nights of each month, in Knights of Pythias Hall.

Lockwood Council, No. 33, O. U. A. M., was organized here May 9th, 1889. It was named in honor of A. D. Lockwood, formerly of this village, chief owner and founder of the Quinebaug Mills. The council was organized with thirty charter members. It gives sickness and death benefits to its members. The membership has been already increased to forty. The first officers were: Charles E. Woodis, C.; Walter E. Heath, V. C.; Walter E. Kies, J. Ex. C.; William H. Hamilton, S. Ex. C.; Charles D. Stone, R. S.; George R. Baker, A. S.; Albert Burrows, F. S.; Edward S. Carpenter, treasurer; Adelbert Perkins, inductor; E. G. Baker, examiner; J. J. Rynolds, I. P.; R. J. Coon, O. P.; U. B. Scofield, C. C. Franklin and W. E. Heath, trustees.

Quinebaug Assembly, No. 209, Royal Society of Good Fellows, an insurance order, was instituted February 4th, 1889, by Albert Leavens, supreme deputy of Boston. The first officers were: William H. Wilcox, ruler; Doctor W. H. Judson, past ruler; John E. Westcott, instructor; Charles A. Wood, councillor; Charles D. Stone, secretary; E. C. Babson, F. S.; Frank S. Downer, treasurer; Charles C. Franklin, prelate; Henry A. Brown, director; W. F. Oates, guard; Frederick G. Oates, sentry; W. H. Leavens, John T. Smith and Doctor W. H. Judson, trustees. The society had twenty-two charter members, and this number has increased to over thirty, a part of which are from Wauregan. Funds to meet insurance are provided by assessments. The headquarters of the order are in Boston. It has many very prominent men among its membership. Doctor W. H. Judson, in May, 1889, received a commission as supreme deputy over this jurisdiction, which comprehends Windham county.

The first newspaper in this village was called the *New England Arena*, and was started by Edwin B. Carter in 1844. He had already made some attempts at newspaper publishing in Brooklyn, which he now abandoned for this field. But this enterprise was doomed to early dissolution. In 1848 the *Windham County Telegraph* was started here. The *True Democrat* and the *Windham County Gazette* were also started here about the same time, but they were short lived. After a fluctuating existence of some ten years, under the successive, if not successful, management of Francis E. Jaques, its founder, Fred. Peck, F. E. Harrison, J. A. Spalding and C. J. Little, it was sold to J. Q. A. Stone, in 1858.

Mr. Stone, by hard labor, careful management and unfaltering perseverance, has brought the paper up from a list of four hundred circulation to a position of influence and usefulness second to none in the county. It has been the earnest exponent of the great progressive movements in which the welfare of society has been concerned, and in its advocacy of the right it has not made obeisance to questions of personal profit or advancement. It is a neatly printed, nine column folio, issued every Wednesday evening. A paper called the *Herald* lived a few years, and was succeeded by the *Sentinel*, a democratic newspaper, which, after a few years, suspended. The *New England Fancier* is the title of a neat monthly publication, in pamphlet form, 24 pages, which was started in 1885. It is devoted to poultry. It circulates in every state and territory, and in France and England. From the same office is issued a neat four column, quarto paper, devoted to both poultry and dogs, which is called *Hamilton's Weekly*, started in 1889. The Kennel Department of this is edited by A. R. Crowell of Mattapan, Mass. Both these papers are published by William H. Hamilton. The job printing office with which they are connected has an extensive patronage of poultry and association printing from all parts of the country, and employs from six to ten hands. Mr. Hamilton is an honorary member of the Massachusetts Poultry Association, which is largely composed of business and professional men of Boston and vicinity. He is also an active member of the American Poultry Association, and one of the originators and vice-president of the American Langshan Club, which has its headquarters in Bellows Falls, Vt., and officers in different parts of the Union.

The Wauregan Brick Company has its post office address in Danielsonville, though its works are mainly on the southern border of the town of Killingly, or over the line in the town of Plainfield. Work was commenced there in 1886. The company was organized under the general joint stock law, in 1886. The works are located on the line of railroad, so that no carting is required. The machinery is run by steam. About 3,000,000 bricks are annually made, about 35 hands being employed in the work. The officers of the company are: George H. Nichols, president; Milton A. Shumway, secretary; John Elliott, treasurer.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

WILLIAM A. ATWOOD.—Mr. Atwood was one of the most prominent figures in the industrial interests of Killingly. His grandparents were Kimball and Selinda Colgrove Atwood. His father was John Atwood, who married Julia A. Battey. Their son, William Allen, was born August 4th, 1833, in Williamsville, in the town of Killingly, and received more than an elementary education. First entering the Danielsonville High School, he continued his studies at the Scituate Seminary in Rhode Island, and at Wilbraham, Mass., completing his academic education at Middleboro, Mass. He early entered the Williamsville mills, then under the superintendence of his father, and having made himself familiar with their practical workings, soon bore a conspicuous part in the management of the business. The failing health of his father threw much of the responsibility upon his son, and on the death of the former in 1865, the entire direction of this important manufacturing interest was placed in his hands. Under his watchful eye the business made rapid advancement, and at the date of his death, on the 26th of June, 1881, in New York city, had attained a high degree of prosperity.

Mr. Atwood was married October 4th, 1855, to Caroline A., daughter of Robert K. and Helen Brown Hargraves. Their four children are: Henry Clinton; Bradford Allen, who died in infancy; Mary Elizabeth, deceased, wife of G. W. Lynn, and William Edwin. Both the sons are interested in the Williamsville Manufacturing Company, Henry Clinton being the superintendent, assistant treasurer and secretary. Mr. Atwood was also a stockholder in the large mills at Taftville, and a director of the First National Bank of Killingly. He enjoyed not only the esteem of the community, but the affectionate regard of his employés. This was accomplished by a genial intercourse and a liberal and thoughtful management of his varied interests. In disposition he was retiring and unassuming, doing many kindly acts with such a quiet grace as to make them known only to the recipients of his favor. It has been justly said that he belonged to that class of men who

> "* * * do good by stealth,
> And blush to find it fame."

The profound mourning his death occasioned was a just tribute to his usefulness and worth.

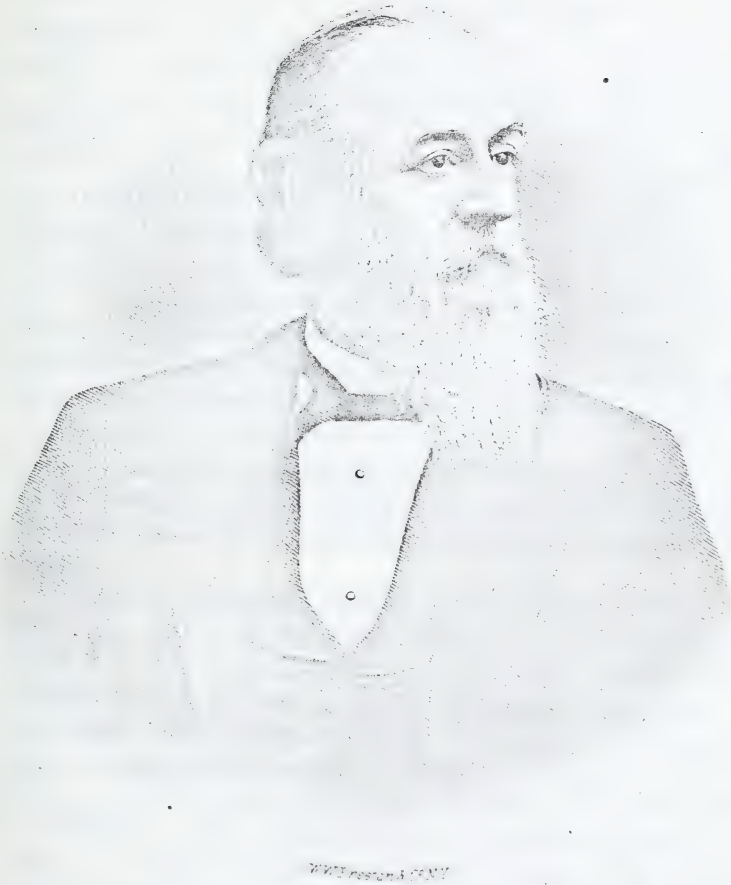
William A Atwood

EDWIN H. BUGBEE.—The subject of this sketch was born in Thompson, April 26th, 1820. His father was James Bugbee, who was born at Woodstock April 11th, 1788, a descendant, through Hezekiah, James, Samuel and Joseph, from Edward Bugby, who came over in the "Francis" from Ipswich, England, in 1634, and settled in Roxbury, Mass. His mother was Elizabeth Dorrance, a descendant of George Dorrance, who came from the North of Ireland with that large Scotch emigration about the year 1715. He received his education in the public schools of his native town, and was early a clerk in his father's store, devoting his leisure hours to reading and study. In 1839 he was engaged by a manufacturing firm, located at the Lyman village, North Providence, R. I., as clerk and bookkeeper. The year proving a disastrous one for cotton manufacturers, the firm felt obliged to suspend operations before its close. In the spring of 1840, operations were again resumed at the mill by its owner, Governor Lemuel H. Arnold, and Mr. Bugbee was continued as clerk. At the close of 1842 business was again suspended by the failure of Governor Arnold. The summer following, Mr. Bugbee obtained a lease of the factory property, and associating with him Mr. Henry Weaver, a practical operator, and receiving abundant financial aid from his friends, the well known firm of S. & W. Foster, of Providence, commenced business on his own account. Although at the commencement the outlook was not flattering, by an unprecedented advance in the price of print cloths, together with prudent management, the business showed at the expiration of the lease gratifying and substantial returns. At the close of the lease, the factory having been sold in the meantime, Mr. Bugbee returned to his native town, having, during the year, purchased a farm in Thompson; but not finding the business of farming at all congenial to his taste, sold it, and in the summer of 1849 entered the employ of the Williamsville Manufacturing Company, of Killingly, S. & W. Foster the Providence agents, with whom he remained thirty years, retiring in 1879.

Mr. Bugbee seems to have early won the esteem of the citizens of Killingly, they conferring various town offices upon him, and in 1857 elected him as one of their representatives to the general assembly, he serving at this session on the judiciary committee. Although a new member and without legislative experience, he at once took a prominent part in the debates of the session, al-

ways commanding the close attention of the house, receiving commendation at the close of the session from political papers of both parties. In 1859 he was again returned to the house and appointed chairman of the committee on education. In 1861, the war year, he was elected to the house for the third time, and was again chairman of the committee on education. This session was one of the most important in the history of the state, the inauguration year of the great rebellion; and had enrolled among the members of either house some of its ablest men. At its commencement the marshaling of troops had already begun, the sound of war everywhere heard, and the *ways* and *means* for furnishing material aid and support to the federal government were the engrossing subjects of discussion. At this session the subject of our sketch again took a prominent part on the floor of the house. Aside from war questions at this session, the most exciting subject was that of the Flowage Bill. This bill was ably discussed *pro* and *con*, Mr. Bugbee making a lengthy speech in its favor, which was highly commended. In 1863 he was again elected, serving as chairman of the committee on state prison. In 1865 he was elected state senator from the 14th district by the large majority of 1,223 votes. On the floor of the senate as in the house he proved an active member. At this session he was chairman of the committee on banks, and one of the eulogists in the senate on the death of President Lincoln. In 1868 he was elected senator for the second time and chosen president *pro tem.* of that body, serving as chairman of the committee on military affairs. In 1869 he was in the house and again chairman of the committee on education. He was elected to the house in 1871 and chosen speaker, in which capacity he won especial favor and commendation. In 1873 he was a member of the house and chairman of the committee on new towns and probate districts. He was elected for the eighth time to the house in 1879, receiving the major vote of both political parties of Killingly, and was chairman of the committee on cities and boroughs.

The partiality of the voters of his adopted town in having elected him eight times their representative—something unusual in Connecticut towns, we think—and on two occasions giving him large majorities for senator, must have been exceedingly gratifying to the subject of our sketch. Mr. Bugbee, though an earnest republican, has never been a violent partisan; and by his



W. H. Pregber

non-partisan action when a member of the legislature, has received more or less democratic support. Through all the years of his legislative career he was ever attentive to his duties, seldom failing to answer to roll calls, participating in most of the important debates, always listened to with attention, receiving credit in either house as among their most eloquent speakers.

He married, in 1865, Selenda Howard, daughter of Howard Griswold, Esq., of Randolph, Vt. She deceased in July of the following year. He has retired from active business and at present resides in Putnam, Conn. He is a life member of the New England Historic-Genealogical Society, and its vice-president for Connecticut, and is much interested in genealogical investigation. He has been one of the directors of the First National Bank of Putnam since the first year of its existence. He is represented as being heartily in favor of tariff and civil service reform, and condemns as unpatriotic the policy so often pursued by the political party that is out of power of opposing on purely partisan grounds and for party purposes the measures proposed by the party in power, which very measures if they, the minority, were in power they themselves would recommend and advocate.

Henry N. Clemons, cashier of the First National Bank of Killingly, was born in Granby, Conn., son of Allen and Catharine Clemons. He was educated in the district school, the Granby Academy, the Suffield Literary Institution and the Williston Seminary, East Hampton, Mass. He began teaching at sixteen years of age, and taught in Hartland, Granby and Hartford, Conn., and Woonsocket and Central Falls, R.I. He was for a while in the office of the commissioner of the school fund in Hartford, Conn. In 1844 he commenced railroading on the New Haven & Northampton road, with the engineer corps. He served as station agent at Farmington and Collinsville, Conn., and was assistant postmaster at the latter place; then ticket agent of the Providence & Worcester road at Providence. In 1855 he commenced banking, as clerk in the Arcade Bank, at Providence, and in 1856 became teller of the Merchants' Bank, then the redeeming bank for Rhode Island, in the old Suffolk system. In June, 1864, he was elected cashier of the First National Bank of Killingly, Conn., then just organized, which office he now holds, after more than twenty-five years' service, a period longer than any other cashier in eastern Connecticut. The capital of the

bank is $110,000. With its July dividend, 1889, it had paid back to its stockholders $226,600 in dividends. In August, 1864, he was elected treasurer of the Windham County Savings Bank, and organized the bank, and held that position till 1875. Under his treasurership the bank's deposits reached $1,300,000. It was the first savings bank in eastern Connecticut to allow interest to commence each month. In 1866–7 the savings bank built, under his supervision, their present bank building. On the organization of the Music Hall Company he was chosen treasurer, and arranged in its building the banking rooms now occupied by the national bank. In 1866 he was chosen treasurer of District No. 1, Killingly, and on the union of districts 1 and 2 was re-elected, carrying out the financial arrangements needed in building the high school house, holding the office for eighteen years. Mr. Clemons was treasurer of the Congregational church for thirteen years, and has been notary public for twenty-five years in this state.

Thomas J. Evans, who was born May 17th, 1826, in Brooklyn, Connecticut, is the son of Elijah Evans, and the grandson of Elisha Evans. His active career was begun at the age of seventeen, as a teacher in Killingly, where he continued for ten successive years, his last term at Dayville having closed with an interesting exhibition, the proceeds of which aided greatly in the purchase of a library and other school supplies. For five years he was engaged in the clothing business in the above village, and his capital was afterward invested in a livery stable which he successfully managed for nine years at the same point. In the year 1878 Mr. Evans erected a substantial brick block in Danielsonville, and the following year made that place his residence. His political connections were with the republican party, which he frequently represented in the various county and town offices. He was for sixteen years a member of the board of education, for five years assessor, three years town clerk, and judge of probate from 1872 to 1886. He was also warden of the borough and a member of the court of burgesses. For two years he was president of the Windham County Agricultural Society and four years its treasurer. Mr. Evans was married in 1850 to Miss Eliza Kennedy. His death occurred in 1889.

Timothy Earle Hopkins.—The grandparents of Mr. Hopkins were Timothy Hopkins, born in 1751, and Sarah Carver, daughter of Captain Joseph Carver. His father was Carver

Thos. J. Evans

ARTOTYPE, E. DIENSTADT, N. Y.

W.W. Preston & Co. N.Y.

J. E. Hopkins

Hopkins, born October 26th, 1799, who married Abby K. Manchester. Their children, seven in number, were: Israel M., Florinda A., Sarah C., Abby E., Ann E., Timothy E. and Lillian P., of whom all but the eldest son are still living. Timothy Earle Hopkins was born in Burrillville, R. I., December 5th, 1835, of which place he continued a resident until 1862. His education was received in the public schools and at New Hampton, N. H., where a year was spent in study; after which he served an apprenticeship as a spindle maker in his native town. He then engaged for two years in mercantile business, and at the expiration of this time removed to Providence, where three years were spent as a merchant. In 1865 Mr. Hopkins removed to Thompson and embarked in the manufacture of cotton goods, remaining at this point until 1870, when Burrillville again became his home. Here he continued the business of a manufacturer, the product of his mills being woolen fabrics. In 1876 he suffered disaster and loss as a consequence of the severe flood of that year, and soon after removed to Fitchburg, Mass., where until 1880 he continued the manufacture of woolens. Mr. Hopkins then became a resident of Danielsonville, his present home, where he is still engaged in the production of woolen goods in the town of Killingly. He is also treasurer of the Jesse Eddy Manufacturing Company, of Fall River, Mass., and one of the promoters of the Crystal Water Company, of Danielsonville, of which corporation he is president. He is a director of the First National Bank of Killingly. Mr. Hopkins in politics gives his support to the republican party, and represented the town of Thompson in the Connecticut house of representatives in 1868. He has also, since his residence in Danielsonville, been active in furthering the educational interests of the borough. He is an active Mason, member of Friendship Lodge of that order at Chepachet, of Providence Chapter, and of Calvary Commandery, of Providence. Mr. Hopkins was in May, 1859, married to Marcella S., daughter of James S. Cook, of Burrillville. They have had three children—Elsie M., Earle Carver and Earle Cook; Earle Carver being deceased.

Almond M. Paine.—Benjamin Paine, the grandfather of Judge Almond M. Paine, was a successful farmer in Glocester, R. I. By his marriage to Phebe Aldrich were born a numerous family of children. The birth of his son, Ransom Paine, occurred December 13th, 1787, and his death on the 15th of January, 1854,

in Glocester, where he followed the trade of a wheelwright, and spent the latter years of his life as a farmer. He married Phebe, daughter of Thomas Smith, of the same town, who was born June 12th, 1794, and died March 12th, 1860. Their children are: Almond M., Mary Ann, wife of James M. Adams; Emily, married to Elijah Mann; Adaline M., who died in infancy, and James A.

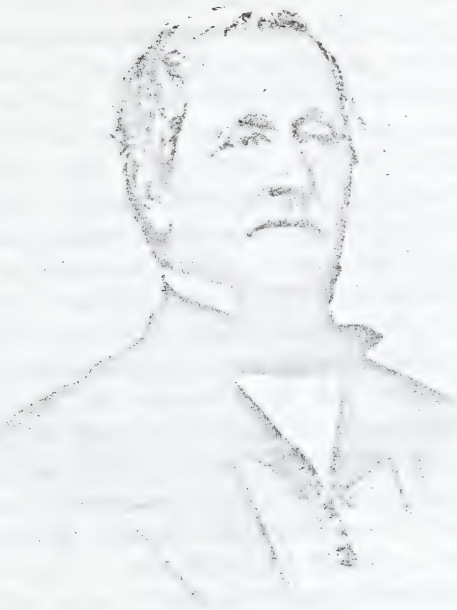
The eldest son, and subject of this biography, was born September 15th, 1820, in Glocester, and received an academic education. At the early age of fifteen he engaged in teaching, and for nine successive years the winters found him at the teacher's desk, while the healthful employments of the farm engaged his attention during the summer months. In 1846 he removed to Sterling, and four years later made East Killingly his home. Here he embarked in trade as a country merchant, and continued a successful business until his retirement, since which date his time has been largely devoted to the management of his private interests, and to the public service.

As a republican he for several years filled the office of justice of the peace, and was repeatedly elected assessor of his town. In 1857 he was made judge of probate and served four years, having also, during a brief residence in Thompson, been chosen to the same office for a term of two years. He was appointed by President Lincoln postmaster of East Killingly, and held the commission during that administration. Judge Paine was in 1864 made a director of the First National Bank of Killingly, and later a corporator and trustee of the Windham County Savings Bank. His services are often sought as administrator and trustee, where integrity and judgment are primary qualities. Judge Paine was in 1847 married to Phebe Salsbury of Foster, Rhode Island, born April 28th, 1817, who died in 1878. Their children are: Eliza D., born May 31st, 1848, who died in 1879; and Emily M., whose birth occurred June 12th, 1854.

Henry Westcott.—James Westcott, the grandfather of Henry Westcott, familiarly known as the "Captain," was born March 5th, 1740, and married Martha Tillinghast. Their son Joseph, whose birth occurred April 9th, 1779, in Glocester, Rhode Island, married Esther Richmond of the same town. The children of this union were: Henry; Almira, wife of Jude Sabin; Elizabeth, married to James Wood; and David. Henry, the eldest son, was born April 18th, 1801, in Glocester, and in early childhood re-

A M Paine

ANTOTYPE, E. HERSTADT, N. Y.



Henry Westcott

ARTOTYPE, E. HERSTADT, N. Y.

moved to East Killingly, where the primitive schools of the day afforded him a beginning for that practical education which was chiefly the growth of experience and observation.

In early years a farmer, he afterward identified himself with the commercial interests of East Killingly, and was associated with Thomas Pray as a manufacturer, under the firm name of Westcott & Pray. They built the Ross mill and the Whitestone mill, conducted an extensive business, and were regarded as among the most prosperous owners of mill property in the county. Mr. Westcott's marked ability, keen discrimination and indomitable perseverance won for him an enviable reputation in financial circles, and carried him safely through many a crisis where a less resolute man would have faltered. In his business relations he enjoyed a record for integrity and generous dealing, while his genial nature made all transactions a matter of pleasure to others. On disposing of his interest at East Killingly, he retired to Danielsonville, his residence at the date of his death, on the 5th of June, 1878. Mr. Westcott was an active and honored member of the Baptist church, and contributed with liberality toward the erection of the new edifice in the borough where he resided. In politics a whig and republican, he filled the more important town offices, and was elected to the state legislature in 1840. Mr. Westcott was, on the 3d of February, 1824, married to Almira Browning of Rutland, Mass. Their eldest child, Nancy N., died in infancy. The surviving children are a daughter, A. Elizabeth, and a son, Henry T., both of Danielsonville.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

THE TOWN OF ASHFORD.

The Wabbaquasset Country.—Land Speculators.—Settlement of Ashford.—Major Fitch.—James Corbin.—New Scituate.—The Town Established.—Titles Confirmed.—Common Proprietors.—Land Controversies.—Civil Disorder.—Military Company.—Population and Growth.—Public Morals and Order.—Growth of the Settlement.—Early Town Officers.—Land Title War.—Days of the Revolution.—Visit of President Washington.—Post Office, Taverns and Probate Court.—Honored Sons.—Roads and Bridges.—Schools.—Ecclesiastical History.—First Church.—The Great Revival and the Separates.—Westford Congregational Church.—Meeting Houses and Ministers.—First Baptist Church.—Eminent Men of Westford.—Baptist Church of Westford.—Manufacturing in Westford.—Warrenville Baptist Church.—Manufacturing and Business at Warrenville.—Eminent Sons of Ashford.—Babcock Library and Band.—Biographical Sketch.

IN the early period of settlement the territory of Ashford, which originally included also the present town of Eastford, was a part of the Wabbaquasset country which was conveyed to Major Fitch by Owaneco in 1684. It was a wild forest region, remote from civilization, but known and traversed from the early settlement of New England, lying directly in the route from Boston to Connecticut. The first company of Connecticut colonists encamped, it is said, on the hill north of the present village of Ashford, and the old Connecticut Path crossed what is now Ashford Common. Thus the land here was exposed to the view of passing adventurers for three-quarters of a century before any attempt was made at settlement in this vicinity. The first land laid out within this territory was a tract four miles square, now in the south part of Eastford, which was made over to Simeon Stoddard of Boston, in 1695, in satisfaction of a judgment of court. Major Fitch was at the time greatly embarrassed in business affairs, and his title to the Wabbaquasset country was questioned. Mr. Stoddard was a resident of another colony, and so neither was disposed to undertake the settlement of this region.

At this time representations had been made to the general court of Connecticut upon which that body on the 9th of May, 1706, granted to "such good people as shall be willing to settle thereon," a township eight miles square, and appointed a committee of its own members to lay out the township by actual survey, also to lay out home lots and other divisions of land, to order and manage the affairs of the town and to admit and settle all such inhabitants as should be approved, and who should pay their proportionate share of the expense of surveying and settling the same. This action of the court aroused Major Fitch to action, and he at once began to push the sale of lands which he claimed. In 1707, a tract five miles in length and three in width was purchased for £110, by John Cushing, Samuel Clap and David Jacob, of Scituate, and laid out on the west of the Stoddard tract, and was called the New Scituate Plantation. Captain John Chandler soon purchased a large part of this tract and a strip of land adjacent, and became the chief proprietor of New Scituate. The whole remaining territory of original Ashford, comprising 21,400 acres, was sold by Major Fitch to James Corbin, of Woodstock, in 1708, and he conveyed the same to David Jacob, Job Randall and twelve others, residents of Scituate, Hingham and Andover, Mr. Corbin retaining an equal share in the land and managing the affairs of the company. These tracts were laid out as rapidly as possible, and efforts made to initiate a settlement in advance of the government. The proprietors had but partial confidence in the validity of their titles. The first actual settlement upon this land appears to have been by John Mixer, of Canterbury, who for four pounds purchased a tract of one hundred acres, the deed to which containing the stipulation that if the proprietors' right should be proven invalid the four pounds should be returned to the purchaser. His land lay on the river at a place called Mount Hope, where the present village of Warrenville is situated. This was in January, 1710. A few months later, in April, John Perry, of Marlborough, bought three hundred and fifty acres near the present site of Eastford village, and settled upon it.

The general court, whose committee had done nothing toward laying out a town here, now reappointed a committee with more practical instructions to proceed at once with the project of establishing a town here. The committee now took possession of the township and undertook to lay it out in the name of the col-

ony. The name Ashford was suggested by the great number of ash trees which grew in the primitive forests. The region was rough, rocky and unattractive, a great portion of it being covered with dense forests which abounded in wolves, bears and various species of game. This was a favorite hunting ground of the remaining Wabbaquassets, who secured large quantities of furs here, which they furnished in trade to Mr. Corbin, who derived therefrom a considerable revenue. Only two families of white inhabitants, and they living five miles apart, were now upon the tract. The impending contest between the individual proprietors already mentioned and the government of Connecticut was a serious obstacle in the way of settlement. Both parties appealed to the general court; the representatives of the Fitch title for confirmation of their title and liberty to settle, and the committee to show their inability to carry out their instructions under existing circumstances. While the court was undecided as to what course to take, the claimants under Fitch pushed forward the work of settlement. Philip Eastman, of Woodstock, and John Pitts, Benjamin Allen, Benjamin Russel and William Ward, of Marlborough, bought farms of James Corbin and settled on them, north of the Stoddard tract, on Still river, in the summer of 1711. Houses were built, lands broken up, and a highway was laid out by these settlers. In the following year William Price, senior and junior, David Bishop, Nathaniel Walker, John Chubb and John Ross bought land of Corbin and joined the eastern settlement. Daniel James and Nathaniel Fuller, of Windham, Josiah Bugbee, of Woodstock, and Samuel Rice and Philip Squier, of Concord, purchased farms of Captain Chandler in New Scituate. The court's committee also sold some land. Homesteads were purchased of them by Isaac Kendall, William Chapman, Isaac Farrar and Simon Burton.

In answer to a petition of the settlers, in October, 1714, the general court granted town privileges, which included the right to elect officers for carrying on the prudential affairs of the place, building a meeting house and settling and maintaining a minister. The inhabitants were also instructed to employ the surveyor of Hartford county to lay out the town eight miles square, and each claimant of land within its limits should within one year enter the deed or other record or instrument by which he claimed title in a book to be provided by the town clerk for the purpose. At the same date a quit-claim to 10,240 acres of land

in Ashford on the Pomfret line was granted by the general court to Simeon Stoddard and heirs, of Boston. Other non-resident claimants complied as soon as possible with the requirements of the court respecting the recording of land evidences.

Under the grant of town privileges the first town meeting was held early in 1715. William Ward acted as moderator; John Mixer was chosen town clerk and treasurer; John Perry, constable: William Ward and John Perry, selectmen; William Ward and John Chapman, grand jurors, and William Ward, Philip Eastman, Nathaniel Fuller, John Pitt, Benjamin Russel, James Corbin and Isaac Kendall were chosen to lay out highways. The town now determined, if possible, to secure possession of the large tracts of wild and unoccupied land which lay within its limits and were claimed under the Fitch title by non-residents who were holding it, though by a very precarious tenure of ownership, for purposes of speculation, without any expense for highways or improvements upon it. Though the town was divided upon this subject, the majority prevailed, and after considerable conflicting proceedings, the people became nearly unanimous in agreement to proceed in exercising jurisdiction and ownership of the lands claimed by non-residents before mentioned. As several of the inhabitants opposed these proceedings of the town lest it should invalidate their titles obtained from Corbin or Chandler and compel them to pay twice for their homesteads, it was granted by the town that all such as had lands purchased in that way should be allowed to hold them free, and should have an equal share in the undivided lands in addition thereto.

The town now set about the work of confirming their individual titles. January 11th, 1718, it was voted, "That the town doth grant all those lands that have been already granted to be free and clear according to the most free tenure of East Greenwich, in county of Kings in the Realm of England—provided these persons give sufficient bonds, with sureties, to John Perry and Philip Eastman, who are appointed to furnish the committee with money to build the meeting house." Under the new system the first general distribution of undivided lands was ordered by vote of the town, March 5th, 1718. This was a division of two hundred acres to each proprietor. Each farm was to be laid out in regular form, to begin at the west end of the town and extend east to a common line, so placed as to allow two

hundred acre plots of uniform size and shape. These were allotted to the proprietors by drawing. The following are the names of the forty-five persons who, having given bonds, drew lots in this division, and were thus admitted to be proprietors of Ashford: John Follet, Caleb Jackson, James Fuller, Joshua Kendall, Nathaniel Abbot, Joshua Beckman, Isaac Farrar, Nathaniel Gary, Thomas Corbin, Peter Aldrich, William Ward, Sr., Thomas Tiffany, William Ward, Jr., Joseph Ross, John Perry, Nathaniel Walker, John Mixer, Isaac Magoon, Nehemiah Watkins, Philip Squier, E. Orcutt, Nathaniel Fuller, Jacob Parker, William Price, Obadiah Abbe, Josiah Bugbee, Benjamin Miller, William Fisk, John Pitts, William Price, 2d, John Chapman, John Follet, 2d, Philip Eastman, Jacob Ward, Daniel Fuller, Widow Dimick, Jeremiah Allen, William Farnum, William Watkins, Thomas Tiffany, 2d, James Tiffany, Joseph Cook, Matthew Fuller, Isaac Kendall, Antony Goffe. A few of these proprietors were residents of Windham and Pomfret, but the most of them were already residents of Ashford. In this assumption and division of territory the town, though acting solely in its own name and authority, undoubtedly had received the sanction and advice of the committee which the general court had appointed for that purpose.'

Messrs. Chandler and Cushing, in behalf of themselves and others, as claimants under the Fitch title, appealed to the general court May 8th, 1718, for a confirmation of their title. That body also, about a year later, heard the representation of the Ashford proprietors in defense of their action, they also asking for confirmation. The general court then appointed a committee, composed of James Wadsworth, John Hooker, Captain John Hall and Hezekiah Brainard to investigate the matter. They met for that purpose at Ashford, September 9th, 1719. The question of the rights of the adjoining towns of Windham and Mansfield, which were claimed to have been encroached upon by the survey of Ashford, was also involved in the investigation, but to the committee there appeared in that claim no cause of action. The investigation resulted in a settlement of the controversy as follows: As to the New Scituate claimants, Chandler, Cushing, Clapp and others, all persons holding as inhabitants on lands claimed by them, should within one year pay three pounds per hundred acres for what they held, except those persons who had purchased lands directly of them, previous to the assump-

tion of the town inhabitants or proprietors; the Reverend James Hale was to have free the two hundred acres upon which he had built; sixty acres near the meeting house were to be sequestered for the support of the ministry forever; and ten acres where the meeting house then stood were to be set apart for a green or common; all of which should be free of any claim on the part of the previous claimants, who in turn were to hold the remaining lands in their claim without taxation. As to the claim of James Corbin and others a considerable part of their land was already sold to and occupied by about twenty inhabitants, amounting to 10,770 acres; it was accordingly agreed that such sales should stand, and of the 6,000 acres still unappropriated in that tract 2,500 acres should be confirmed to Corbin and company, and the remainder was to be sequestered to the common use of the inhabitants. Of the New Scituate tract, which contained 9,600 acres, 5,726 acres had already been appropriated by the inhabitants, and after deducting the reserves for ministers, ministry and common, there remained 3,374 acres to be occupied or disposed of by the claimants.

The report of the committee was presented to the general court, October 20th, 1719, and by that body accepted and confirmed. The Stoddard tract was undisturbed by these controversies. The assembly had already confirmed this land to Mr. Stoddard, and the town recognized his claim, while he in turn recognized the jurisdiction of the town by paying his taxes as other proprietors of lands did. In 1716 Mr. Anthony Stoddard conveyed this tract to his sons, Anthony, David and William. The first settler upon it was John Chapman, who took what was delicately termed "irregular possession," in 1714, but was numbered among the regular inhabitants of the town. William Chapman, Benjamin Wilson and John Perry bought land in this tract in 1718. Captain John Chandler bought the strip lying west of the Natchaug and sold it out to settlers. The remainder of this land was long left vacant and unimproved, its owners paying their rates duly and manifesting an interest in the affairs of the town.

An unusual instance of disorder and the subverting of the ends of government appears in the annals of this town, about the years 1721 and 1722. By the act of 1714 an unusual liberty was allowed in the qualification of voters. This was on account of the few inhabitants then in the town. As long as everything

was harmonious this liberality in suffrage qualifications gave rise to no difficulty, but at the time spoken of a faction of ignorant and irresponsible men arose with such power that one Arthur Humphrey, their leader, was elected a selectman, whereupon the other members of that body refused to act, and for a time the affairs of the town were at the mercy of this faction, which opposed all schools, broke up one that had already been established, warned the schoolmaster out of town, prosecuted the refractory selectmen to their great cost and trouble, made a scandalously unjust and imperfect rate list, and by other outrageous acts kept the town in a ferment of agitation. The matter was at length appealed to the assembly, who confirmed the elections thus far had, but ordered that after that time the usual qualifications required of voters in other towns should be required here.

A full military company was formed in Ashford in 1722, with John Perry for captain, Benjamin Russel for lieutenant and Joshua Kendall for ensign. During these years the people suffered much from Indian alarms, and constant fears stimulated watchfulness to be ready for any outbreak of savage hostility which might appear. Captain Perry proved himself an efficient and courageous officer, and several times furnished the government important information. To prevent as much as possible their approaches under false pretenses Indians were forbidden to hunt in the woods north of the road from Hartford, through Coventry and Ashford, to New Roxbury. A military watch was ordered to be held in Ashford and a scout maintained in the northern part of the town. By these precautions the settlers were protected in a measure, and no disastrous attack of the Indians was experienced.

The population of the town now steadily increased. Joseph Bosworth bought land of Corbin in the eastern part of the town in 1718, and Elias Keyes followed in 1722. In the latter year Edward Sumner of Roxbury, a brother of Samuel Sumner of Pomfret, with two associates bought a thousand acres of land of James Corbin in the eastern part of Ashford. As an inducement to them to settle upon this wild tract of land Mr. Corbin further offered to cover and finish a building, the frame of which already stood upon the land, using boards and shingles, erect a stack of chimneys and finish four rooms within the house and then to deliver annually to them four barrels of good

cider for four years, they to find barrels and send them to his house in Woodstock. Thomas Eaton of Woodstock, a brother of Jonathan Eaton of Killingly, settled in Ashford in 1723. In 1725 Robert Knowlton of Sutton purchased a large tract of land in the southwest part of Ashford, now included in the Knowlton neighborhood, and at once settled upon it, laying out a road on the east side of his farm and freely giving it to the town.

In May, 1725, James Corbin petitioned the general assembly for a patent of confirmation for certain lands in Ashford in place of lands which had been taken from him by the annexation of a strip of Ashford land to the town of Willington. The annexation of that strip to that town had prevented his taking up the twenty-five hundred acres assigned him in the settlement of his claim with Ashford. On the other hand the New Scituate tract, which was now held by Colonel John Chandler, contained 2,476 acres more than the deed called for. Corbin now petitioned that this surplus might be granted to him. A committee appointed by the general court found that the New Scituate land was over measured, and that body on hearing the case decided that the petition of Corbin should be granted, with the proviso, "that all the claimers that have regulated themselves according to the order of the committee in 1719 shall not be prejudiced thereby."

With the commotions created by contests and litigations over the possession of lands and the blighting effects of drouth and other unfavorable conditions, which discouraged the progress of improvement, the town made slow headway with the elements of a growing community. But the completion of the minister's house and the meeting house was persevered in. The assembly had granted the town repeated exemption for many years from paying colony taxes. But whatever financial discouragement assailed them, the people were firm in their determination to maintain the standard of public morals, as far as providing laws and punishments could effect this. A set of "stocks" was erected on the green, in front of the meeting house door, and the town was prompt in prosecuting individuals who neglected their families and thus threatened to bring charges upon the town. Benjamin Russel and others were allowed to build a pound on the meeting house green at their own cost and charge. As foreign cattle continued to trespass upon the commons the town appointed men to drive them out, and in 1734 it was voted, "That

any inhabitant of Ashford that shall take into possession, care or oversight, any neat cattle that don't belong to an inhabitant of Ashford, other than his own proper estate, from the first of April to August, shall forfeit ten shillings to the town for each and every head of neat kine so taken." A cemetery was laid out in 1734. At that time James Beekman, Joseph Whiton and Robert Knowlton were appointed a committee "to lay out a quarter acre of land for a burying place at ye west end of ye town, where people have been buried." A burial place was also ordered in the east of the town. In 1732 the town began to pay colony charges. The rate list of estates for that year amounted to £4,609, 9s. Captain John Perry and Philip Eastman were now chosen to represent the town in the general assembly, and they were continued in that capacity for several years. Up to about this time for many years the town had been in the habit of paying a bounty of twenty shillings a head for every wolf killed. It appears that by the year 1735 the country was so completely rid of these wild animals that the last bounty of this kind was paid in that year.

About the middle of the last century Ashford reached a condition of some prominence and activity. Many new settlers had gained a residence here. Ebenezer Byles, on becoming of age, settled on land which had been purchased by Josiah Byles in 1726, about a mile west of Ashford Green. William Knowlton purchased a farm of four hundred acres in the western part of Ashford. This was in after years divided between his sons Daniel and Thomas, who, after serving brilliantly in the French war, engaged with equal ardor in cultivating their land and discharging the ordinary civil and military duties of good citizens. Ephraim Lyon removed from Woodstock to the eastern part of the town, and was greatly esteemed as a man of shrewdness and sound judgment. Daniel Dow, of Voluntown, settled north of the "green," with a rising family of great promise. David Bolles, of New London, established himself near the present Eastford village, with a license to exercise "the art and mystery of tanning leather," and great skill and experience in working up the same into serviceable shoes. Stephen Keyes, Theophilus Clark, and Amos Babcock were admitted freemen prior to 1760. Samuel Woodcock, of Dedham, succeeded to the farm once held by Jacob Parker, and Jedidiah Dana to that formerly of John Paine. The remaining part of the Stoddard tract fell to Martha, daugh-

ter of Anthony Stoddard, and wife of Captain John Stevens, of Boston, who, in 1757, laid it out and divided it into thirty-one lots or farms, which were sold to John Chapin, Abel Simmons, James Parker, Robert Snow and others. A large and valuable farm, near the site of the present Phœnixville, known as the Beaver Dam farm, was retained and occupied by Captain and Mrs. Stevens, and brought under a high state of cultivation. President Stiles, journeying through Ashford in 1764, was very much interested in Captain Stevens' agricultural operations. He reported him as holding six thousand acres of land in the town; having thirty acres of hemp growing, which required but one man to attend, but employed thirty men in pulling time; and expecting a harvest of twenty tons of hemp and two hundred bushels of seed. The people of the town testified to their respect for these distinguished residents by voting that Captain John Stevens and his family should have liberty to sit in the ministerial pew at church during the pleasure of the town. Captain Benjamin Sumner, Captain Elisha Wales, Elijah Whiton and Amos Babcock were prominent men in the town at that time. The tavern keepers licensed in 1762 were Benjamin Sumner, Joseph Palmer, Benjamin Clark, Jedidiah Fay, Ezra Smith, Samuel Eastman and Elijah Babcock. Solomon Mason had a grist mill, and Amos Babcock kept a store.

The town officers elected in 1760 were: Amos Babcock, Ebenezer Byles, Jedidiah Dana, Captain Benjamin Sumner, Ezra Smith, selectmen; Mr. Byles, town clerk and treasurer; Ezekiel Tiffany, constable and collector for the west end of the town; Samuel Holmes, constable and collector for the middle of the town; Benjamin Russel, constable and collector for the east end of the town, and also collector for colony rates; Timothy Eastman, Josiah Spalding, Benjamin Carpenter, Amasa Watkins, Samuel Allen, Jedidiah Dana, Stephen Abbot, John Bicknell, Benjamin Walker, Jonathan Chaffee, Job Tyler, Benjamin Clark, David Chaffee, William Preston, surveyors of highways; Jonathan Burnham, Josiah Eaton, fence viewers; Benjamin Clark, Josiah Holmes, Benjamin Russel, Jedidiah Blanchard, Asaph Smith, listers; Nehemiah Smith, Jonathan Burnham, grand jurors; Josiah Rogers, Stephen Snow, William Chub, tithingmen; Benjamin Russel, brander, pound keeper and collector of excise; Caleb Hende and Josiah Chaffee, branders and pound keepers; Samuel Snow, sealer of weights and measures; Asaph Smith, sealer of leather.

As a glimpse of some of the difficulties which beset the people of Ashford in those days the following memoranda, made by the town clerk in one of the books of record, are interesting:

"The 5th day of May, 1761, a very stormy day of snow, an awful sight, the trees green and the ground white; the 6th day, the trees in the blow and the fields covered with snow.

"The 19th day of May, 1763, a bad storm of hail and rain, and very cold, following which froze ye ground and puddles of water.

"The 17th day of October, 1763, it snowed, and ye 18th in ye morning the trees and the ground were all covered with ice and snow, which made it look like ye dead of winter."

One of the last general agitations with which the town of Ashford was disturbed, before the great upheaval of the revolution, was an outbreak of land controversy, with respect to the claims of James Corbin and his legal representatives. This broke out afresh about the year 1769. At that time the Corbin claims were represented by Benjamin and Ashael Marcy. An appeal was taken to the assembly, and all the actions of town and assembly since 1719 were reviewed at great length. The assembly decided that 910 acres were still due to Corbin under the settlement of 1719, and 375 acres more under the patent of 1725, which they interpreted as being an addition to the settlement of 1719, and the Macys were authorized to take up land to the amount of such deficiencies, from the commons of the town. But when they began to act under this authority the town prosecuted them in the superior court, and obtained a verdict against them. The Macys then appealed again to the assembly, and that body reversed the decision of the superior court, restoring the Macys to the possession of the land and reimbursement of costs. Thus the question rested until the events of the revolution gave the people questions of deeper import to absorb their attention.

As early as 1767, when the oppressive acts of parliament were being discussed as vital questions in the colonies, Ashford held a meeting December 14th, and appointed some of its trustworthy citizens, Elisha Wales, Benjamin Clark, Benjamin Russel, Elijah Whiton and Benjamin Sumner, "to be a committee to correspond with other committees in the county and elsewhere, to encourage and help forward manufactures and a spirit of industry in this government." In regard to the non-importation agreement of 1769, and the violation of it by some, the people of

this town, in response to a call for a convention of delegates at New Haven, in 1770, to consider the public welfare in regard to the matter, gave the following expression of their sentiments:

"Our utmost effort shall be put forth in vindication of the Non-importation Agreement, as a measure without which the safety and prosperity of the Colonies cannot be supported.

"That peddlers who, without law or license, go about the country selling wares, are a nuisance to the public, and, if in our power, shall be picked up and put to hard labor, and compelled to earn their bread in the house of correction.

"We highly resent every breach of the Non-importation Agreement, and are always ready to let our resentment fall upon those who are so hardy and abandoned as to violate the same.

"It is our earnest desire that every town in this Colony, and in every Colony in America, would explicitly and publicly disclose their sentiments relating to the Non-importation Agreement and the violations thereof.

"That the infamous conduct of the Yorkers in violating the patriotic engagements of the merchants, is a daring insult upon the spirit and understanding of the country, an open contempt of every benevolent and patriotic sentiment, and an instance of treachery and wickedness sufficient to excite astonishment in every witnessing mind, and we doubt not but their actions will appear infamous till the ideas of virtue are obliterated in the human mind, and the advocates of liberty and patriotism are persecuted out of the world.

"That if the people of America properly attend to the concern of salvation, and (unitedly) resolve upon an unshaken perseverance in the affair of non-importation till there is a total repeal of the revenue acts and an ample redress of American grievances, we shall be a free and flourishing people.

"In consequence of the above resolutions we have chosen Captain Benjamin Clark to attend the general meeting of the mercantile and landed interests at New Haven—the sense of the town as above—and to use his utmost influence to establish in the most solid and durable form the Non-importation Agreement."

At the same meeting a committee, consisting of Elisha Wales, Benjamin Clark and Samuel Snow, was appointed to see that no trade in imported goods was carried on in Ashford in violation of the non-importation agreement.

Later on, when the war clouds began to thicken, in the summer of 1774, Ashford appointed as its committee of correspondence, to act with similar committees from other towns, for the general good, the following men: Jedidiah Fay, Captain Ichabod Ward, Captain Elisha Wales, Benjamin Sumner, Amos Babcock and Ingoldsby Work. Sympathy was expressed on behalf of the blockaded and oppressed Boston people by following the example of Windham in sending a fine flock of sheep for the relief of the distressed city. During the troublous years of the war Ashford suffered in common with other towns of the county, and contributed her share of men and means to carry forward the common cause. The sound sense of political economy with which her people were inspired is shown in the following instructions given October 3d, 1783, by Ashford town meeting, to Simeon Smith and Isaac Perkins, her representatives in the assembly:

"1. Oppose all encroachments of Congress upon the sovereignty and jurisdiction of separate States, and the assumption of power not expressly vested in them by Articles of Confederation.

"2. Inquire into the very interesting question whether Congress was authorized by the Federal Constitution to grant half-pay for life, and five years full pay to officers—and if the measure be ill-founded, attempt every constitutional method for its removal.

"3. Promote a strict inquiry into public and private expenditures, and bring to a speedy account delinquents and defaulters.

"4. Use your endeavors that vacant lands be appropriated for the general benefit of the United States.

"5. Pay particular attention to the regulation and encouragement of commerce, agriculture, arts and manufactures.

"6. We instruct you to use your influence for the suppression of placemen, pensioners and all unnecessary officers.

"7. Also, to use your influence to promote the passing an act in the Assembly to enable Congress to lay an impost on the importation of foreign articles.

"And, finally, we instruct you to move in the Assembly that the laws for the promotion of virtue and good manners and the suppression of vice, may be attended to, and enforced, and any other means tending to promote a general reformation of manners."

The population of Ashford in 1775 was 2,228 whites and 13 negroes. The grand list at that time amounted to £17,273, 11d. 3d. Captain Benjamin Sumner was at that time a very prominent citizen of the town. Josias Byles succeeded Isaac Perkins as town clerk and treasurer, in 1780. The selectmen in 1783 were Esquire Perkins, Captain Reuben Marcy, Captain David Bolles, Lieutentant John Warren and Edward Sumner. Other officers then were: David Brown, Jedidiah Ward, Ebenezer Bosworth, Ebenezer Mason, constables and collectors; Ephraim Lyon, Joshua Kendall, Ephraim Spalding, Amasa Watkins, Jacob Chapman, Thomas Ewing, Jonathan Chaffee, Timothy Babcock, Isaac Kendall, Captain Samuel Smith, Medina Preston, John Loomis, Ephraim Walker and Stephen Snow, highway surveyors; Medina Preston, Samuel Spring, Abel Simmons, Deacon Chapman and Josias Byles, grand jurors. At this time the selectmen were directed to provide a workhouse in which idle, lazy and impotent persons were to be taken care of and under the direction of the selectmen they were to be put to work. A committee was at the same time appointed to look after schools.

One of the memorable events in the history of Ashford was the visit of General Washington, while on his presidential tour in 1789. Leaving Uxbridge before sunrise, Saturday, November 7th, they breakfasted at a tavern kept by one Jacobs, in Thompson—the well-known half-way house between Boston and Hartford—and thence proceeded on the road to Pomfret. Major Jackson and Private Secretary Lear occupied the state carriage with the president, and four servants followed on horseback. No one knew of the coming of such a distinguished party through the town, so the people were not prepared to see him, and only those who happened to be in the way were fortunate enough to get a glimpse of the nation's chieftain.

At Grosvenor's, in Pomfret, they paused for refreshment and rest, and to inquire for General Putnam, whom Washington had hoped to see here, and which indeed had been one of the objects in coming this road, but finding the distance to his residence too great to be covered without disarranging his plans, Washington abandoned the idea of seeing Putnam, and continued on the main road eight miles further, to Perkins' tavern in Ashford, where he remained over the Sabbath. The diary of the president speaks of this tavern as "not a good one," a remark which he

frequently found appropriate to the taverns he found on his way, and as he was not writing for publication he had no scruples against candidly noting it in his private memorandum. Tradition gives few details or incidents of this visit. Washington, it is said, attended church, and occupied the most honored seat in the house of worship, and Mr. Pond and the town officials doubtless paid their respects, but the Sabbath-keeping etiquette of the time did not permit any formal demonstration, and he was probably allowed to spend the day in peace and quiet after his own taste. His visit here is said to have aroused the jealous indignation of the people of Windham town. They declared in reference to the president that he had "gone back and stole away from ye people, going by a by-road through Ashford to avoid pomp and parade."

Ashford was favored with a post office as early as 1803. David Bolles, Jr., was appointed first postmaster. The usual representatives of the town in assembly about that time were William Walker, Abel Simmons, Jr., Josias Byles and John Palmer. An instance of the natural aversion to anything like corrupt measures in political campaigns, with which the people were imbued is seen in the fact that the election of Mr. Jason Woodward in 1802 was contested on the ground that he had obtained it "by distributing liquor; had treated the selectmen with four bowls of sling, and given to the people about his store four bottles of liquor," but fortunately for him and the credit of the town, the charges were not substantiated in the evidence. In the census of 1800 this town is reported as having a population of 2,445, and a grand list of $61,367.41.

A number of taverns were kept during the early years of the century, by Messrs. Clark, Richmond, Palmer, Preston, Burnham, Howe, Woodward and others. In 1818 there were in the town eight mercantile stores, six grain mills, nine saw mills and five tanneries. Josias Byles was still continued in the office of town clerk, and David Bolles and his son retained the post office. The town now had seven churches, and some manufacturing was carried on. Four carding machines had been set up in different parts of the town. Rufus Sprague, Edward Keyes, John N. Sumner, Benjamin and Mason Palmer were incorporated in 1815 as the Sprague Manufacturing Company, for the manufacture of cotton wool into yarn or cloth. Read, Stebbins & Co., engaged in a woolen factory, advertising the same

year for eight or ten young men to learn to card, spin and weave. Benjamin Palmer also engaged in the manufacture of tin ware, which he offered, of any description, plain or japanned, as low as any one in the state.

A probate district was organized here and the office established in Ashford village in 1830. David Bolles was made probate judge, but he died during the year mentioned, and the office was then placed in the hands of his successor in legal practice, Ichabod Bulkley.

In the march of modern improvement and change, Ashford seems to have suffered somewhat. Railroads have evaded this section. Her advantage of position on the great thoroughfare of New York and Boston travel by turnpike and wagon road is a thing of the past. But Ashford may cherish an honorable record in the past, and many honorable names in the country have had their ancestral roots here. Her living sons are found everywhere outside of their own town. One of these wandering sons, who achieved success and fortune, has shown his interest in his birthplace by devising liberal things for its benefit—leaving it the sum of six thousand dollars, the income of which is to be expended upon its musical and intellectual culture. The Babcock Brass Band, with facilities for continued improvement, the Babcock Library, free to all the inhabitants of the town, have resulted from this considerate bequest of Archibald Babcock, late of Charlestown, Mass. With such substantial remembrances from those who owe it allegiance, it may be hoped that the home of Knowlton, Dana, the Notts, the Bolleses, and other illustrious sons, will continue to maintain an honorable position among its sister towns.

In the early years of settlement the Connecticut Path was the only recognized highway or thoroughfare by which this town was approached or had communication with the outside world. But the need of more accommodations in the line of roads and bridges was soon felt, and commendable effort was made to supply this need. In 1728 it was voted "that the town will butt the west end of the lower or south bridge over Bigelow River from the land part to the stream with solid work with stones, or logs, or both, and if the bridge over the stream be judged defective, then to build it all anew." All the inhabitants of the town were warned to assist in repairing this bridge. A cart bridge over Bigelow river was also ordered "by Humphrey's

saw mill," as well as a bridge over Mount Hope river, on the Hartford road. Another bridge was ordered to be built "over the great brook by Daniel Bugbee's meadow," and also a horse bridge over Mount Hope river, in Corbin's land.

During the years that followed the town was greatly interested in the improvement of its public highways. Toward the close of the century a committee was appointed to confer with a committee appointed by the assembly "to lay out a highway from East Hartford to Massachusetts or Rhode Island line." The Boston Turnpike Company was incorporated in 1797, and within two or three years the great Boston and Hartford turnpike, running through Mansfield, Ashford, Pomfret and Thompson, was completed and opened to the public. James Gordon, Shubael Abbe and Ebenezer Devotion were appointed to oversee repairs, gates and collections on this road. About half a mile to the east of Ashford village, this road connected with another great turnpike leading to Providence, constructed a few years later by the Connecticut and Rhode Island Turnpike Company. Unlike some other towns, Ashford made no opposition to these improvements, but willingly paid the needful impost to gain better accommodations and increased travel. Daily stages passing to and fro over these roads gave the town quite a busy air. Chaises and other vehicles were now coming into vogue. A large amount of freight was carried over the turnpikes. The numerous taverns needed to supply the wants of travelers and teamsters were kept by Jedidiah Fay, Benjamin Clark, Isaac Perkins, Josiah Ward, William Snow, Josiah Converse, Stephen Snow and Samuel Spring. The Woodstock and Somers turnpike was completed during the early years of the present century, as was also the Tolland County turnpike, which intersected the Boston and Hartford turnpike, two miles west of Ashford village. Travel on these thoroughfares was stimulated by the war of 1812, and by the manufacturing industries of neighboring towns. Stages were daily passing to and fro over the various roads, and at the junction of the Boston and Providence turnpikes a continuous line of vehicles as far as the eye could reach could frequently be seen.

During the early years of Ashford town life the question of maintaining schools received some backward blows. A party of ignorant and unenterprising men succeeded for a time in holding the control of the public voice so far as to prevent a school

being kept up. In 1722 the town voted "not to be at the expense of hiring a schoolmaster." This state of affairs, however, did not continue for any great length of time. In October, 1723, a schoolmaster was hired by the town to keep school half a year. In 1726 the public interest was bending all its energies toward completing its meeting house, and in the pressure of economy for that purpose it was decided to "wave having a schoolmaster." But this suspension of the school was probably for only a short time. In 1727 we find the schoolmaster in the town, an active factor in society, in the person of John Andrews.

In 1734 the one schoolmaster for the town was replaced by three "school-dames," for the three sections. These were described as follows: "One school to be east side of Bigelow river; one to sute the middle of the town; one west side of Mount Hope river." A committee of three in each section was selected to attend to the business. The "school-dames" employed that year were a Mrs. Chapman, Ann Eaton and Sarah Bugbee, and their pay was for each of them, four pounds for three months. In 1735 Samuel Snow, Edward Tiffany and Thomas Corbin were allowed to build a school house at their own cost and charge, on the meeting house green, south of the Hartford and west of the Mansfield road. A schoolmaster was hired to teach three months at each end of the town. In 1737 he was hired for nine months; in 1739 for a year, he to find house room wherever practicable. Arrangements were now in progress for procuring suitable school houses. An agreement was entered into with Mr. Stoddard, by which, in consideration of the recognition by the town of his claim to 8,864 acres of land within its limits, he gave two hundred acres of land for school purposes. January 1st, 1739, this land was ordered to be sold and the money to be placed at interest for the benefit of a religious school in Ashford forever. The minimum valuation fixed upon it by the town was four hundred pounds. Afterward the town was divided into three districts for school purposes, each of which should pay its own expenses. These districts were respectively Eastford, Ashford and Westford. A rate of £150 was soon after ordered to build a school house in each section. Under this new arrangement Elijah Whiton and John Griggs were the first schoolmasters of which we find any mention. The salary of the former was thirteen pounds for two months' school service and

boarding himself. Mr. Knowlton was one of the public spirited men of the town, and was deeply interested in behalf of the schools. When he was chosen deputy to the general assembly in 1751 he begged the privilege of bestowing fifty shillings upon the school instead of investing it in the "treat" to the company which the custom of the day required in return for such an honor as he enjoyed. In the following spring he made a voluntary gift of twelve pounds "old tenor" to the school.

In February, 1716, the foundations of a civil settlement having been partly laid in prospective Ashford, it was voted that the meeting house be built first, that is, before the minister's house. The dimensions of this house were forty feet long, thirty-five feet wide and eighteen feet high. The wages paid the men who did the work of building were three shilling a day for the master mechanic, two shillings nine pence a day for journeymen hewers, and two shillings a day for ordinary laborers. The price of board for a mechanic then was four shillings and six pence a week. In the mean time a committee empowered by the town to secure the services of a minister obtained Mr. James Hale, of Swanzea, a graduate of Harvard in 1703, who served the people, and at the organization of a church became pastor. They gave him for settlement a salary of forty pounds a year for three years, after which it was increased annually for seven years till it reached sixty pounds, besides his firewood and a hundred acres of land. They also agreed to build him a two-story house "with a twenty foot room in it." This room is supposed to have been intended and used for public worship until the completion of the meeting house. The meeting house does not seem to have been carried forward to completion from the start.

November 26th, 1718, a church was formally organized in Ashford by Reverend Josiah Dwight, Mr. Samuel Whiting and Joseph Meacham, of Coventry. Mr. Hale was ordained pastor, and the following men subscribed to the articles of covenant: James Hale, John Mixer, William Ward, Joseph Green, Isaac Magoon, Matthew Thompson, William Chapman, Benjamin Russel, Daniel Fuller, Isaac Kendall, John Pitts, Nathaniel Fuller and John Perry. On December 9th following the female members named hereafter were added to the number of original names: Sarah Hale, Abigail Mixer, Judith Ward, Mary Fuller, Mary Russel, Elizabeth Squier, Mary Fuller, Mrs. William Chapman

and the Widow Dimick. December 21st, Elinor Kendall and Sarah Bugbee were added to the number. John Mixer was made the first deacon. In September, 1721, he being about to remove from the town, his place was filled by the election of Isaac Kendall and Joseph Bugbee. "Brother John Perry" was at this time chosen "to set the psalm with respect to public singing." The meeting house had been finished sufficiently to afford a place to hold services in, but it remained unfinished inside until 1723, when it was decided as desirable to finish with "plaster and whitewash all the lower part of the meeting house to the lower girth." Among the furniture of the house was an hour-glass, for which Nathaniel Fuller was allowed two shillings. The finish of the interior, however, was delayed many years, and the privileges of pews and the orderly seating of the congregation according to the ideas and usages of those days, were questions frequently under discussion and subject to various and often opposing decisions. It was evidently a hard struggle for existence with the first church of Ashford. There were discordant elements in the population, and a factor of ignorance laid obstacles in the way. Taxes were laid, school questions were set aside, remarkable privileges were granted, all to help forward the matter of church and minister's house and support, the South church of Boston donated fifteen pounds to help this church, but with all the means used and efforts made the work was backward.

The memorandum of a fact which has no essential relation to this church appears on its records, and for want of a more appropriate place at command in which to preserve it, we take the liberty of digressing a moment to mention it. In the records of Mr. Hale appears this statement: "The great earthquake on the Lord's day evening, October 29, 1727, was in an awakening manner felt in this town, as also the terrible storm of wind and hail the September before."

The discipline of the church was preserved with very much of the mint-tithing exactness which was characteristic of the period, while much liberality was exercised with regard to some matters which are now considered as of great practical importance. For example, on one occasion Ephraim Bemis was charged with selling strong liquor in small quantities upon a certain occasion, and the question was raised as to whether he was guilty of a "confessable fault" in so doing, but the church

decided in the negative. In 1739 the meeting house needed extensive repairs. At that time the salary of the minister was raised to £100 a year. Mr. Hale suffered failing health for some time, and measures were taken to supply his place temporarily. But his pastorate closed with his death, November 22d, 1742, he being in the fifty-eighth year of his age. His successor was Reverend John Bass, of Braintree, who was installed September 7th, 1743.

In the time of the great revival of 1740 to 1750, Solomon Paine and other itinerants extended their labors to this field, and many of their hearers embraced Separate or New Light principles. These Separatists were divided on the question of baptism, making two factions, while the orthodox church people were also divided into the rigidly Calvinistic and the liberal classes, and thus four quite distinct factions existed in Ashford.

The methods and action of these Baptists and Separatists were very offensive to the strict church people, and the preaching of Solomon Paine especially was so obnoxious that efforts were made to stop him by legal process. February 15th, 1745, while Paine was preaching in a private house, complaint was made to Justice Tiffany, who, upon searching his legal authority, was clearly convinced "that it was an unlawful meeting for Paine to come to Ashford to preach and exhort," and thereupon granted a warrant for his arrest. Constable Bemis went to the house to serve it. Taking hold of Paine he told him that he had no right to preach, and that he must go before the justice to answer for his unlawful preaching. Paine vehemently stigmatized the law as being suggested by the Devil, and refused to respect it or obey the summons. Bemis then called upon several persons to assist him, who at first refused, but when reminded that the law had a penalty for such refusal, they "gently took Paine from the stage whereon he was preaching, and carried him out of the door and set him down." But Paine stubbornly refused to go before the justice, whereupon "they took him in a very gentle way and set him on a horse and led him to Justice Tiffany's," where he was appropriately rebuked and then dismissed. The arresting party was afterward indicted for a riot, in which the charge set forth "that with riotous intent and with force and arms they did assault the person of said Solomon Paine, and pulled him onto the floor and carried him half a mile distant, to his great hurt and abuse and the disturbance of others." The

county court acquitted them, but adjudged that they should pay costs, but on their appeal to the general assembly, this charge was also remitted. The church now enjoyed a season of quiet, during which, in 1747, some considerable repairs were made on the meeting house. But the question of the orthodoxy of Mr. Bass soon arose and gave occasion for prolonged disquietude. Councils were frequently called to investigate his orthodoxy. A final council, which met June 4th, 1751, found sufficient ground for their action, and dissolved the pastoral relation between him and the Ashford church, and Mr. Bass withdrew, leaving the church divided in sentiment and opinion, a strong party in it being in sympathy with the deposed pastor and his views. The church was much divided, and a number of efforts were made to secure society privileges in the eastern and northern parts of the town, but without success. Meanwhile repeated attempts were made to get a minister who could secure favor among the differing factions sufficiently strong to obtain a call to the pastorate. Among the ministers who thus passed in review before this now hypercritical congregation were Daniel Pond, David Ripley, Messrs. Mills and Elderkin, Stephen Holmes, Daniel Kirtland, Nehemiah Barker and Elijah Blake. At length, after six years of commotion and discord, Mr. Timothy Allen succeeded in obtaining a call, and was ordained pastor of the church and town October 12th, 1757. He was a powerful and fervent preacher, of decided "New Light" proclivities. The northwest inhabitants were also favored with two months' preaching in the winter, paid out of the common fund. This concession encouraged the people of that locality to press their claims for more distinct society privileges, which, after much agitation of the question, were granted by the assembly in October, 1765. The bounds of Westford society thus formed were "from the northwest corner of said township five and one fourth miles south on the west line of said town, from thence a strait line to the crotch of Mount Hope river, and thence a strait line to John Dimmock's south line, where said line crosses Bigelow river, thence north on said Bigelow river to Union line."

The town of Ashford at that time contained forty thousand acres, and a valuation on its grand list of £13,700. The Westford Society thus formed included thirteen thousand three hundred acres, eighty families and a valuation of £3,500. The proposition to set off Eastford as a distinct society, with bound-

aries substantially as they now appear with reference to the town, was agitated at the same time, but was not carried into effect until October, 1777, when that society was granted distinct privileges.

The preaching of Reverend Mr. Allen was not agreeable to the people, and he became unpopular and his salary fell short. To make up the deficit he engaged in trading in land, and here he became involved in debt and his creditors sent him to jail. A council was called, which dismissed him from his pastorate, though clearing him from every serious charge. Several years passed before the settlement of his successor could be effected. During this interval the church was greatly weakened and scattered, but still continued in its efforts to secure a minister and preserve order. Baptisms were administered from time to time by the neighboring ministers. Days of fasting and prayer were held in 1766 and 1768, "for direction and assistance in the affair of choosing a minister," and church and society at length happily united in choice of Reverend James Messinger of Wrentham, a graduate of Harvard College, who was installed into the pastorate February 15th, 1769. Under the leadership of this "much beloved spiritual guide," as he was called, the church increased in numbers, and regained something of its primitive standing, despite the political distractions of the times. The venerable Isaac Kendall, who had served the church as deacon, through the changes and pastorates, from its organization, died October 8th, 1773, in the eighty-eighth year of his age, and the fifty-second year of his deaconship. Benjamin Sumner, one of the fathers of the town, Jedidiah Dana and John Wright, also served as deacons. Deacon Elijah Whiton was dismissed to the church in Westford society.

Mr. Messinger died while in the service of this church, and his place remained vacant for several years, when Reverend Enoch Pond was ordained and installed over the church September 16th, 1789. He was a native of Wrentham and a graduate of Brown University. Possessing unusual ability and cultivation, he gained great influence over his people, and enjoyed a harmonious pastorate. Ebenezer Mason and Isaac Perkins were chosen deacons in 1789, and upon the death of the latter in 1795, they were succeeded by Matthew Reed and David Brown. The old meeting house, having now been in use seventy years, was enlarged and thoroughly repaired. A revival

of religious interest soon followed the settlement of Mr. Pond, and about sixty persons were added to the church. Mr. Pond closed his labors with the close of his life August 6th, 1807. His epitaph, written by Reverend David Avery, thus estimates him:

"Generous in temper, correct in science and liberal in sentiment, the gentleman, the scholar, and the minister of the sanctuary, appeared with advantage in Mr. Pond. The church and society in Ashford were favored with his Gospel ministry eighteen years."

His successor was Reverend Philo Judson of Woodbury, who was ordained and installed September 26th, 1811, and enjoyed a successful ministry for a still longer period. He was released from his charge in 1833. His immediate successor, Reverend Job Hall of Pomfret, remained but three years. He was succeeded by Reverend Charles Hyde of Norwich, who was installed pastor of this church February 21st, 1838. Matthew Reed and Elisha Byles were chosen deacons in 1825. After the death of Deacon Kendall in 1829, his son of the same name was chosen to fill his place, being the third Isaac Kendall who had occupied the deacons' seat, and the fifth of the name in direct succession to occupy the Kendall homestead of 1714. A new meeting house was erected on the previous site in 1830.

Reverend Job Hall, the seventh pastor, was ordained January 15th, 1834. He was born in Pomfret May 11th, 1802, graduated at Amherst, 1830, dismissed July 17th, 1837, after a ministry of a little more than three years. Nineteen were added to the church during his ministry. He retired to a farm in Orwell, Vt., where he died a few years since, much respected in the community where the closing years of his life were spent. Reverend Charles Hyde, the eighth pastor, was installed February 21st, 1838, and dismissed at his own request, and greatly to the regret of his people, June 26th, 1845. During his ministry of seven years and four months, ninety-one members were added to the church. He left to accept a call to Central Falls, R. I., where he remained for several years. After his dismission from this parish, he labored for a time in South Coventry, but failing health compelled him to give up the work of the active ministry. The ninth pastor was Reverend Charles Peabody, a native of Peterboro, N. H., born July 1st, 1810, graduated at Williams, 1838, at Andover, 1841; settled in Biddeford, Me., where he re-

mained till June, 1843. He was next installed in Barrington, R. I., where he labored till 1846; installed in Ashford, January 20th, 1847, where he continued three years and eight months. Twenty-seven were added to the church during his ministry. His next field was Windsor, then Pownal, Vt. He then returned to Biddeford, where he labored till 1866, then to Eliot, Me. Several years since he retired to Longmeadow, Mass., where he still resides. The tenth and last installed pastor was Reverend Charles Chamberlain, who graduated at Brown University, and was for a time a tutor in that institution. He was first settled in Auburn, Mass.; installed in Ashford, June 8th, 1854, dismissed March 29th, 1858. Twenty were added to the church during his ministry of nearly four years. Soon after his dismission, he was installed in Eastford. He afterward labored in East Granby, where he died suddenly a few years since.

Among those who have labored as acting pastors or stated supplies, are Reverends George Soule, Thomas Dutton, Stephen Barnard, Benjamin B. Hopkinson, Andrew Montgomery, Charles P. Grosvenor, O. S. Morris, and S. M. May. In 1886 Nathaniel Kingsbury commenced his labors with this church, and the Baptist church in Warrenville, and continues with this church in his labors. Only one of all the ten pastors of this church, Reverend C. Peabody, is now living. Four of the acting pastors, Soule, Dutton, Barnard and Morris, have finished their work. The deacons of the church have been: John Mixer, Isaac Kendall, Josiah Bugbee, Jonathan Avery, Jedidiah Dana, Elijah Whiton, John Wright, Benjamin Sumner, Nathaniel Loomis, Ebenezer Mason, Isaac Perkins, Matthew Reed, David Brown, Isaac Kendall, Zachariah Bicknell, Matthew Reed, Elisha Byles, Isaac Kendall (the fourth Isaac Kendall in a direct line), Reuben Marcy, Royal Keith, Samuel L. Hough, James G. Gaylord, James Trowbridge, Andrew H. Byles and John A. Brown, the two last named now serving in this office.

The present meeting house was built in 1830, three years after Mr. Judson's dismission. The choir occupied the gallery back of the pulpit, looking down upon the head of the minister, where they were able to judge quite accurately, if he preached any sermons yellow from age. After a time the meeting house underwent thorough renovation. The gallery was closed up behind the pulpit, the pulpit lowered, the singers' gallery removed to the rear of the audience room, the large choir filling well the

seats, occupying the entire breadth of the meeting house. About two years since the audience room was again remodelled, the pulpit giving place to a preacher's desk. This was placed in the rear part of the room, the singers on the east side, at the preacher's left hand, the slips changed to face the preacher and singers in their new location, and the audience room is completed with much taste and beauty. Whether the "progress of the age" will compel new changes in the future, who can tell? It now seems in too good taste to demand further improvements.

Until Reverend Mr. Allen's dismission, there had been but one Congregational church and society within the eight miles square of the town. The town had before, for several years, voted preaching for two or three months (probably the winter months) to the people of the northwest part of the town, and employed a preacher for them; but they belonged to the center, and came to the meeting for the greater part of the year. After Mr. Allen's dismission, the town by amicable agreement in town meeting, was divided into three ecclesiastical societies —the East, the Center and the West. The aim was to give the same amount of territory to each. The Westford society was incorporated in October, 1765, the church in February, 1768. At first, meetings were held in private houses, notices of the meetings to be given at Solomon Mason's mills and Zephaniah Davison's shop. December 9th, 1765, it was also voted to build a meeting house, and hire preaching; to raise a tax of two pence to pay for preaching; that the meetings should begin the first Sabbath of April; that Esquire Whiton should procure a minister; and that Ebenezer Dimmock, Christopher Davison, Manasseh Farnum and Joseph Barney be a committee to count the cost. A minister was procured according to vote—the society further voted to meet at Captain Ward's for divine worship during his pleasure. June 7th, it was voted to choose a committee of three able and judicious men to fix a place for the meeting house, also five more, viz., Ezra Smith, Samuel Eastman, Benjamin Walker, Christopher Davison and Samuel Knox, to notify the first and "get them out." Negotiations were then opened with certain proprietors in Brimfield, Mass., and a convenient meeting house frame which they had given up was purchased for thirty pounds, provided the same could be taken down without damage. This was successfully accomplished, and was

safely on the ground in Westford by June 13th. The quality of the *liquor* to be furnished for the raising brought out as earnest discussion almost as the fitness of a ministerial candidate. It was first voted to have *gin*, but this vote was soon rescinded and it was decided to have a barrel of the best *West India rum*, and one quarter of a barrel of sugar, the best in quality, for the raising. Ensign Walker was to provide the same, and money was taken from the treasury of the society to pay the bill. "Under this potent stimulant the meeting house was raised without apparent accident, and hurried on to completion, workmen being allowed two shillings and six pence per day, they victualing themselves, and two shillings during the winter." After hearing several candidates, Ebenezer Martin, of Canada parish, was invited to preach for the winter.

February 11th, 1768, was set apart as a day of solemn fasting and prayer, in order to the gathering of a church and settling a minister. Reverend Gideon Noble of Willington, conducted the service, assisted by Deacon Nathaniel Loomis, and Deacons Wright and Dana from the old Ashford church. A suitable covenant was prepared and subscribed by James Ould, Ezekiel Tiffany, Ezekiel Holt, Elijah Whiton, Joseph Barney, Ezra Smith, James Whiton, Joseph Whiton, Benjamin Walker, Thomas Chapman, Manasseh Farnum, John Smith, Jonathan Abbe and Joseph Chaffee. At a meeting of the church four days later it was voted to call the Reverend Ebenezer Martin to settle in the gospel ministry in this place, at which time the covenant was probably signed by the pastor elect and the following brethren, viz: Joseph Whiton, David Chaffee, Ebenezer Walker, Christopher Davison and Jonathan Chaffee. The wives of many of these brethren, together with Stephen Nott, Daniel Eldridge, Hezekiah Eldridge, Ichabod Ward, David Kendall and Jacob Fuller were ere long added, making a membership of fifty-five. The society concurred in the call to Mr. Martin, offering sixty pounds salary, rising to seventy, paid half in money, half in produce, viz., wheat, Indian corn, oats, pork and beef. Twenty pounds in land and sixty pounds toward building a dwelling house, secured acceptance of the call, and on June 15th he was ordained with the usual solemnities. Work on the meeting house was slowly carried forward. A large number of inhabitants received liberty to build stables for their horses on the meeting house green, provided they were "set so as not to en-

croach on any road." June 14th, 1770, a meeting was held in the meeting house to hear the report of the pew committee. Each pew was to be occupied by two families. Forty inhabitants, highest on the list, were to draw said pews according to their lists; build the pews and ceil the gallery girths. This report was accepted and the pews were distributed as follows: 1. Benjamin Walker, Elijah Whiton; 2. Ebenezer Dimmock, Ichabod Ward; 3. Thomas Chapman, Ebenezer Walker; 4. Joseph Woodward, Zaccheus Hill; 5. Ezra Smith, Ebenezer Walker; 6. David Chaffee, William Thompson; 7. David Robbins, George Smith; 8. Adonijah Baker, Josiah Chaffee; 9. John Warren, Josiah Rogers; 10. Ezekiel Tiffany, Benjamin Chaffee; 11. Jedidiah Blanchard, Benjamin Walker, Jr.; 12. William Henfield, James Whiton; 13. Samuel Eastman, Henry Works; 14. James Averill, Job Tyler; 15. Ezekiel Holt, David Chaffee; 16. James Ould, Stephen Coye; 17. Abijah Brooks, Simon Smith; 18. Ephraim Walker, Jonathan Abbe; 19. Jacob Fuller, William Preston. Probably the 20th seat was for the minister's family.

Among newly arrived families, bringing them additional strength, was that of Stephen Nott, the father of sons of great promise, and Doctor Thomas Huntington of Lebanon, who proved a most valuable acquisition to both the society and the town.

In March, 1778, Reverend Elisha Hutchinson was ordained the second minister in Westford. His ministry seems to have been quite brief for these early times. Reverend William Storrs, the third pastor, was a native of Mansfield; ordained in Westford, November 10th, 1790. His was a long and successful ministry. He died while pastor in Westford, greatly loved and lamented by his people. Reverend Luke Wood of Waterbury, the fourth pastor in Westford, was installed December 13th, 1826. He seems to have been a good minister, useful in his work, but after a few years he left for other fields of labor. After he left Reverend Alvan Underwood labored for several years as acting pastor, without installation. His labors were quite successful, and he was highly esteemed by his ministerial brethren, and among the churches. For brief periods Reverend Mr. Hurd, who afterward labored in the West, and Mr. Langdon were acting pastors. Reverend Charles S. Adams, the fifth and last installed pastor in Westford, of Roxbury, Mass., was installed January 7th, 1846, Reverend Richard S. Storrs, D.D., of

Braintree, a relative of a former pastor, preaching the sermon of installation. At the same time the new meeting house was dedicated, Reverend Roswell Whitmore of West Killingly, a native of Westford, preaching the sermon of dedication. At the laying of the corner stone Reverend Charles Hyde of Ashford, and Reverend Francis Williams of Chaplin, assisted Mr. Adams in the public services of the occasion. Mr. Adams commenced his labors in Westford, September 15th, 1844, but was not installed until the new meeting house was built. This delay was deemed best by him and his people, as the old meeting house was in a dilapidated condition, and they fully intended to build, but could not at once unite upon the location of the new house of worship. Mr. Adams taught a select school during a part of his ministry in Westford, affording superior facilities for the education of his own children and of other young people in the vicinity. After laboring with this people for fourteen years he was dismissed, and commenced laboring soon after in Strongsville, O. He afterward labored in Michigan, but failing health compelled him to retire from the active labors of the ministry. As he neared the close of life, his wife, worn with taking care of her husband, was taken with disease which soon terminated in her death, a few hours before his own. He knew she was too ill to watch at his bedside, but in his low state it was not thought best to inform him of her departure. He expressed bright hopes for his own home above, but said his only anxiety was for his poor wife, whom he must leave not so well provided for in the things of this world as he could wish. How glad must have been his surprise to find her ready to welcome him to the new home, having reached it a few hours before his arrival. One funeral service, and the husband and wife who had long walked life's journey together, were laid to rest in one common grave. Neither sadly mourned the departure of the other.

Thus every pastor who has been settled over the people in Westford has closed his labors upon earth. Since the labors of Mr. Adams closed in Westford the pulpit has been supplied by acting pastors, whose labors have continued only for a few years each with this people, Reverend Messrs. Griswold, Kinney, Beman, White, Allen and John R. Freeman, who died while in service, and is buried in the beautiful cemetery in Westford. Reverend Oscar Bissell has been acting pastor for several years and is still doing good service as the minister in Westford.

The deacons have been, Elijah Whiton, Thomas Chapman, Amos Kendall, William Walker, Abner Chaffee, Nathan Barker, Benjamin Chapman, Allan Bosworth, Ebenezer Chaffee, Nathan Huntington, Chauncey Whiton, Charles W. Brett, now acting deacon, all who preceded him, it is thought, have entered the higher service above.

During the great revival which occurred about the year 1740, and the commotion of the Separatist or New Light factions, a part of the people of Ashford were inclined toward Baptist ideas. The severe agitation in the church of the standing order strengthened the volume of those holding Baptist sentiments. So rapidly did the Baptists increase in numbers that in the summer of 1743 they were organized as a distinct church. This was the first Baptist church formed in Windham county. Thomas Denison, of New London, a recent convert to Baptist principles, became its pastor. His ordination took place in November, 1743, the "laying on of hands" being by Elder Moulton, of Brimfield, who had himself been ordained by Elder John Callendar, of Newport, and other noted Baptist fathers. The church thus organized had but a brief existence. Mr. Denison soon declared himself mistaken, renounced his Baptist principles, fell into a rambling itineracy, and left his church disheartened and disorganized, to fall to pieces. After some years of weakness and struggles the members of this church were incorporated into the church of Brimfield.

Westford is the native place of men of eminence and usefulness in the country: Reverend Enoch Huntington, Reverend Roswell Whitmore, Reverend William Chaffee and Reverend Homer Sears, Baptists; Reverend Samuel Whiton, missionary in Africa, who wrote an excellent volume on the Dark Continent, and when his failing health admonished him that he must return to his native land, reluctantly closed his labors there, to resume them again as soon as renewed vigor permitted his return. When his health gave way the second time he bade farewell to the land of his adoption, and came back to the land of his birth. In improved but broken health he renewed his loved work at the West and the South, until the voice of providence clearly admonished him that his life upon earth must soon close.

Reverend Elijah Robbins, who has also for more than thirty years labored under the direction of the American Board in Western Africa with much faithfulness and success, an early

school-mate of Samuel Whiton, had his early home in Westford. Reverend Theron Brown, Baptist, also a school-mate of Whiton and Robbins, has a high standing in the ministry, in the circle of American poets and as an editor of the *Youth's Companion*. A small hill town parish, raising up ministers and missionaries like this, may well be commended. We may almost apply the words of the wise man: "Many daughters have done virtuously but thou excellest them all." It is not in raising up ministers alone that Westford is to be praised. Men of eminence have entered other walks of usefulness. Judge George Lincoln fills a high station in the legal profession in the state of New York. Ezra White, Esq., was a successful merchant in New York city, and his benefactions for the support of the gospel in his native place and in enlarging and enclosing the beautiful cemetery, where rest the mortal remains of his ancestors, is a worthy example for successful sons who leave our hill towns for the business centers of our republic. Doctor Melancthon Storrs, grandson of Reverend William Storrs, a surgeon in the army during the rebellion, and eminent among the physicians of Hartford and in the state, also his brother, William Storrs, Esq., for many years superintendent of the coal mines in Scranton, Pa., liberal in doing for his native place. Many others fill stations of usefulness as teachers, wives of eminent men, citizens, temperate, industrious, respected and useful.

The Baptist church in Westford was formed in 1780, through the instrumentality to a great degree of Mr. John Rathburn, who had removed from Stonington, and was ordained as its pastor, March 15th, 1781. A membership of fifty-four was reported in 1795. Elder Rathburn with his family friends possessed a goodly amount of property, contributed largely in preparing a place for public worship, and gave the land for the cemetery of the village, thus showing that it is not always to the advantage of a church to have the minister poor and dependent upon his people for his support. Under this ministry the church was quite united and prosperous. Among his successors were Elder Amos Babcock and Reverend Ezekiel Skinner, M. D., under whose labors the church grew strong and prosperous. He was a man of varied abilities, with an executive ability unusual. He was efficient in ministerial labors, giving lectures on subjects of much interest at the time, and having a medical practice which would have been considered sufficient for most men

in the profession. He lectured on the prophecies, on slavery and the live topics of the age. After he closed his labors with the church in Westford Reverends Dexter Monger, Washington Monger, Amos Snell and others for longer or shorter periods labored with this church.

This church has had a varied history. A large, wealthy, and influential portion of the community cherished what are called the *Christian* Baptist doctrines. They did not admit that Christ was in Divinity equal with the Father. They had a decidedly separate interest from the strict Baptists, and the latter could not candidly fellowship them. There was also a portion of the Baptists who did not hold restricted communion. These at length united with the Christians, and in 1862 they re-organized into a Free Will Baptist church. Reverend G. W. Cortis commenced his labors in 1862. He served them for about two years, and when he left in 1864, Reverend P. B. Hopkins commenced his labors with the church. He labored for about nine years, and was succeeded in 1873 by Reverend D. C. Wheeler, and in 1877 Reverend L. P. Bickford commenced his labors and continued until 1881. Two deacons served this Free Will Baptist church, Royal Chapman and Lemuel Willis.

At this period, the Strict Communion Baptists had come into the ascendency and under the lead of the state missionary the church was reorganized as a regular Baptist church. In 1884 Reverend L. S. Brown was ordained as their minister, and he was followed by Rev. J. H. Bidwell, who was succeeded by Reverend A. J. Culver and he by Reverend Oscar Bissell. The present pastor is Reverend Samuel Thatcher, who ministers to this church and that in Warrenville. This church has two deacons, Nehemiah Clapp and Captain Jacob Walls. From this parish originated Reverend Amos Snell, Reverend Henry Coe, and also Reverend Frederick Coe, Andrew Richmond, a graduate of Yale College, a successful teacher, afterward in mercantile life in New York, and Charles Dean, a member of the glass company, and now president of the National Bank at Stafford Springs, also Hon. Edwin Busk of Willimantic. He still owns a saw and grist mill in Westford, doing a large business, principally at present in preparing car timber.

In the olden time the Richmond and Sons company did a profitable business in manufacturing what were called the Richmond Socks. They made an overshoe from cloth webbing

such as was used in trimming carriages, and before the India rubber came into use, they had an extensive sale, and the company became wealthy. Here the glass works were located. The Richmonds, Busk and Dean, did a large business and accumulated wealth in the manufactory. But this business has ceased, and the "Richmond village" is not doing the business for which it was formerly celebrated. The present meeting house in which the people of the village meet for worship was built in 1840.

John Warren, Esq., manifested much anxiety to have a Baptist church organized in the western part of Ashford, in a village on the turnpike from Hartford to Boston and Providence. The First, or as it was often called, the Knowlton meeting house, was not considered so central, nor easy of access as many thought desirable. But the people in the vicinity of the old church were greatly opposed to giving up worship in their sanctuary, and continued for a time to worship there after another congregation was formed in "Pompey Hollow," as the place was then called. Mr. Warren offered a fund to support worship in the Hollow, and the name of the village was changed to Warrenville. A church was organized January 22d, 1848, with eight members, viz., Nathaniel Sheffield and his wife Polly Sheffield, Celia A. Coates, Sophia Hammond, John Church, James Kent, Hiram Cady and his wife Miriam Cady. The ministers employed have been: Washington Monger, 1848; Percival Mathewson, 1850; J. B. Maryott, 1854; Tubal Wakefield, 1858; Elder Fulton, Lucien Burleigh, 1864; C. B. Rockwell, 1863; David Avery, 1871; E. P. Mathewson, 1878; J. J. Bronson, 1880; C. N. Nichols, 1881; L. S. Brown, 1886; N. Kingsbury, 1887; L. Thatcher, 1889, present pastor. The deacons have been, Hiram Cady, John Church, Jared Lanphear, and Stephen C. Robbins, serving at the present time. Present membership of the church, 86; non-resident 36. The meeting house was built in 1848. Permanent funds for the support of the minister were given by Nathaniel Sheffield $1,000, John Warren $300, Ebenezer James $1,000.

In the olden time, the Collins brothers built a carpet factory here, and a good business was carried on, also there was a machine for carding wool, and a hat factory. There has also been a bone mill where fertilizers are prepared. Lombard and Mathewson have a grist mill and saw mill, in which a large lum-

bering business is done. Carriage spokes are here prepared in large quantities. Several stores and mechanic shops give a business-like air to this settlement.

The town of Ashford has furnished men eminent and useful in church and state. Doctor Samuel Nott, for more than half a century pastor in Franklin, and his brother Eliphalet, the distinguished president of Union College; Reverend Daniel Dow, D.D., who spent a long and useful life in Thompson, a corporate member of the American Board, a trustee and one of the founders of the Theological Institute at East Windsor Hill; also his brother, Reverend Hendric Dow, a scholar who bid fair to reach eminence, but died in early manhood; Reverend William Gaylord; Reverend Samuel Gaylord, a successful teacher most of his life; three Doctor Palmers of eminence, father, son and grandson, and Doctor John Simmons. But in the military records of the town Ashford holds a high place. Supplies were promptly sent to Boston when the port was closed by the British power. When the news came of the battle of Lexington, seventy-eight men under Captain Thomas Knowlton marched from the town for the scene of conflict. Only eight towns in the state furnished more men at that time than Ashford. Two months after the battle of Lexington one hundred men from this town were in the battle of Bunker Hill, under Captain Knowlton. Colonel Knowlton was one of the most brilliant of our revolutionary officers, highly valued by Washington, and prevented from rising to the highest military honors only by his early death in the battle of Harlem Heights. In the late civil war Ashford furnished her full quota of brave men. Deacon James G. Gaylord died a starved prisoner in Andersonville. It is said that when he felt the hand of death upon him, he requested a comrade, if he survived, to write to his family, sent tender messages, took a photograph of his wife from his bosom, looked upon it until his eyes grew dim in death, and his hand still grasped the picture, when death could not unclasp the loving grasp. Also Deacon John Brown, with others, did good service for the country.

The Babcock Library, of which the people of this town are justly proud, is the result of a generous bequest of one of the sons of Ashford, who had achieved success in other fields, but did not forget his native town. The following is a copy of that clause of the will of Archibald Babcock, a former resident of the

town of Ashford, but late deceased in the city of Charlestown, Mass., which clause of said will, with the bequest therein contained, laid the foundation of the Babcock Library:—

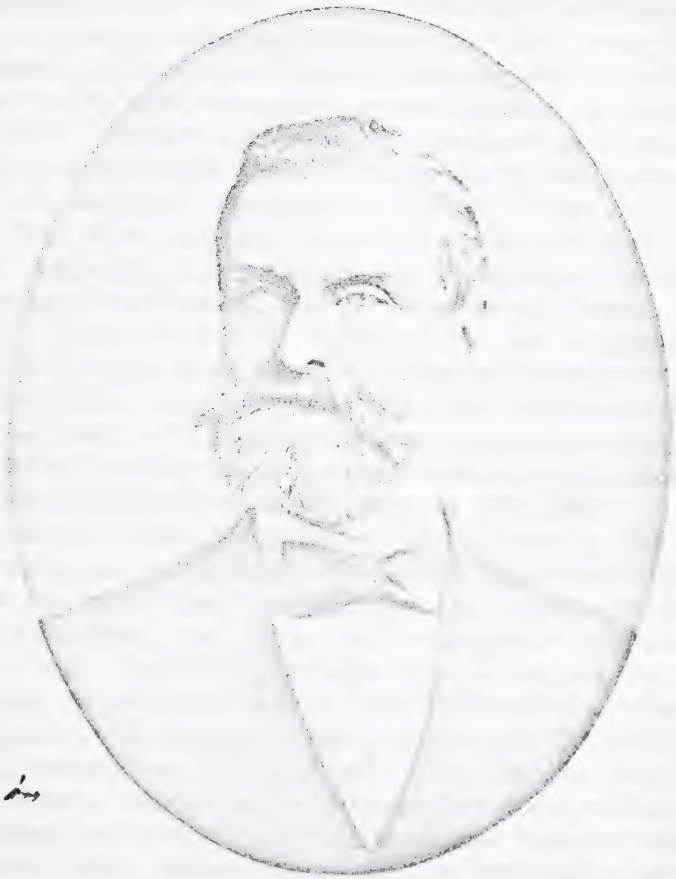
"I also give and bequeath to the inhabitants of the said town of Ashford, the further sum of THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS, to be held in trust forever, by said inhabitants, or by Trustees to be appointed or elected by said inhabitants, and the income thereof, only, to be applied and expended towards establishing and maintaining a Free Public Library in said town, for the use of the inhabitants of said town; and I direct that all the income for and during the first fifteen years, shall be annually expended in the purchase of books." (11 Oct. 1862.)

The library was opened about 1866, in the Warrenville store. It had then about one hundred volumes. There was at first no librarian appointed for it, but about 1873 the town appointed Peter Platt librarian, at a salary of $10 for the first year. He has filled that office ever since that date. The library now contains 2,200 volumes of history, biography, travel, science and fiction, both standard and current. In selecting books for the library, its patrons are requested to send in lists of what to them are desirable books, and from all such recommendations the committee make choice. Mr. Platt in 1885 built an addition to his house for a room to accommodate the library. The room thus prepared for it is 14 by 18 feet in size, and will accommodate five to six thousand volumes.

Archibald Babcock, a former resident of Ashford, went to Charlestown, Mass., and became a wealthy brewer. He left $6,000, the annual income of which was to be expended in Ashford, one-half in the manner described, and the other half in promoting band music in the town. In case no band should be organized or maintained, the income was to be expended in hiring some band from outside the town to come in and play where the townspeople could hear it. Under the encouragement of this bequest, a band has been organized and is ably maintained.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

DANFORD KNOWLTON was born at Ashford, Windham county, Conn., May 5th, 1811. His father and mother were Daniel and Hannah Knowlton, both of the same name, and from families remotely connected. The records of the families are too imperfect to admit of genealogy with accuracy. On the paternal side



Danford Knowlton

ANTOINE E. DIERSTADT, N.Y.

they were farmers in comfortable circumstances, having influence in the community, and filling places of trust and responsibility. On the maternal side they were also farmers, the grandfather of the subject of the present sketch, Daniel Knowlton, and Thomas Knowlton, his brother, being conspicuous while quite young in the war against the French and Indians, serving with General Putnam, and in the early struggles for national independence, in which Colonel Thomas Knowlton fell at the battle of Harlem, and Daniel served through the war, being nearly two years a prisoner in the hands of the British. Colonel Knowlton was among the first to respond to the call for troops, and raised a company in Ashford, joining the colonial forces near Boston, where he became conspicuous in the fortification and defense of Bunker Hill. It was much to be regretted that one so highly esteemed should be lost to the country in its early struggle for national independence, and not unlike the loss it afterward sustained in the death of his grandnephew, General Nathaniel Lyon, of Ashford, who fell while leading a charge upon the confederate forces at Wilson's Creek, Mo., August 10th, 1861.

In the autumn of 1832 the subject of this biography left a happy paternal home with a desire to find some occupation more congenial to his taste than farming. On April 10th, 1833, he entered into an existing firm doing a wholesale grocery business in Hartford, Conn. Continuing the same class of business until December, 1843, he removed to New York, looking for a wider field of operations. With some changes of partners, the wholesale grocery business was continued until 1852, when he visited the island of Cuba and united the importation of its products with the existing enterprise. This mixed class of business was continued until 1861, when all but that of importation was abandoned, and the interest with partners ceased. Importations from the West Indies were continued, with the addition of commerce with South America until 1885, when it was brought to a close, thus completing fifty-two years of mercantile life with the varied success incident to such ventures, having met all obligations in full at maturity.

During the continuance of the importing business a good deal of controversy arose between importers and refiners of sugar respecting the proper duty to be placed upon various classes of sugar, the latter desiring so to discriminate against the better classes suitable for consumption as to prevent their importation.

These controversies led to various appeals to congress, in which the importers generally found the champagne and good dinners of the refiners more effective than the solid arguments and cold water of the importers. Thus that "infant industry" was so protected as to lead to colossal fortunes among the refiners of sugar, at the expense of the consumers, resulting in the exclusion from the country of all sugars except such as are required for refining. In those controversies Mr. Knowlton took a prominent part, appearing before committees of congress and contributing many articles on the subject to the press, and otherwise reaching the attention of the members of congress.

In his matrimonial experience Mr. Knowlton was one of the most fortunate of men. Married to Miss Miranda H. Rockwell, the daughter of Park and Esther Rockwell of Stafford, Conn., September 26th, 1837, he passed almost forty-nine years of a most happy union with one whose amiable character rendered her beloved by all who had the pleasure of her acquaintance. Four children were born to them: Maria R., D. Henry, Miner R. and Gertrude M., the former dying at an early age. Previous to retirement from business, Mr. Knowlton built a fine country residence in Stafford, at the birthplace of his wife, with a view of spending at least his summers in that delightful locality.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

THE TOWN OF EASTFORD.

Location and Description.—Organized as an Ecclesiastical Society.—Cotton Mills.—Search for Gold.—Latham Twine Mill.—Smith Snow.—Crystal Lake.—Factories of Eastford Village.—Cotton and Woolen, Wagon Wheels, Leather, Boots and Shoes, Axes and Hatchets, Carriages, Scythes, Plow Handles and Beams, Bobbins.—Town Incorporation.—Communication.—Honored Sons.—Congregational Church.—The Society of North Ashford.—The Methodist Church.—Ministers and Teachers.—The "Church of Bacchus."—Creamery.—Biographical Sketch.

THE town of Eastford, lying in the northwest part of Windham county, is about nine miles in length from north to south, and has an average width of about three miles. Its area would thus approximate twenty-seven square miles. It is a well watered town, the Natchaug river running through the length of it, and receiving within its bounds several tributaries, the largest of which are Bigelow river from the west and Bungee brook from the east. It has no railroad track within its borders. Farming and manufacturing are the chief occupations of the people. The town was formerly included in the territory of Ashford, which joins it on the west. Other boundaries of the town are Union on the north, Woodstock on the north and east, making an offset of about three miles square upon the northeast corner, Pomfret on the east and Hampton and Chaplin on the south. The population in 1870 was 984, and in 1880, 885.

In March, 1764, the inhabitants of the town of Ashford voted to divide the town into three ecclesiastical societies, as nearly of equal size as possible, for the better accommodation of the people in their religious privileges. When religious worship was maintained in the Eastford and Westford societies, they were to be relieved from the tax in support of the minister in the center. A bill passed the general assembly to this effect. Eastford did not use this privilege until October, 1777, when arrangements were made to have a settled ministry and a church in said society. In almost every interest, except holding town meetings, all

proceeded much as though it was a separate town. In sharing town offices and sending representatives to the general assembly it was expected that Eastford would have her due proportion. The management of the schools, the appointment of school visitors and most of the local interests were under her supervision as much as desired. Ephraim Lyon, David Bolles, Stephen Keyes, John Paine, Anthony Stoddard, Captain John Stevens and many other prominent inhabitants of Eastford were among the early settlers in the town of Ashford.

While most of the inhabitants of Eastford have from its earliest history been engaged in agriculture, they have also been quite largely employed in manufacturing. While it is a hilly town it has running through its central portion streams furnishing excellent water privileges. The Bigelow river forms a junction with the Natchaug near Phœnixville. This comes from the northwest, furnishing an excellent water privilege for the Snow mills. In the olden time a carding mill and clothiers' works were here located, and Eliezer Snow did a thriving business, when the good house-wife spun and wove the cloth for the male portion of the family and sent it when finished to be dressed at Snow's clothing works. A grist mill still does business at this place.

In Phœnixville, in the south part of Eastford, there was a carding machine at an earlier date than that of Snow's, located where the Stone Factory now stands. When the Phœnixville Manufacturing Company was organized a stone cotton mill was built in 1831, consisting of three floors above the basement, 35 by 70 feet in size. The Phœnix Company also purchased the cotton mill which had been built by George and Rufus Sprague about 1812. This building was three floors above the basement, 36 by 50 feet. The original Phœnix Company consisted of Samuel Moseley, Smith Snow, Josiah Savage, James H. Preston, John Brown and Seth H. Tuthill. Both mills were well furnished with the best of machinery, and furnished employment for a large number of operatives. For many years a large amount of business was done by this company. In time the mills passed into the hands of Mr. Clifford Thomas, who carried on manufacturing with much energy and success. When he left the mills the business began to decline, the stone mill became a twine mill for a time, passed with the other property into the hands of the late Joseph B. Latham, and is now in the hands

of his sons. But little business is now transacted by what was once the celebrated Phœnix Manufacturing Company.

At a little distance below the Phœnix Company's mills was the Burnham silk mill. This did a considerable business for a time, having an excellent water privilege. This property passed into the hands of Mr. Alfred Potter, who used the buildings for a saw mill, grist mill, blacksmith shop and an iron foundry. Stoves and plow castings were here made, and a good business carried on. Since the death of Mr. Potter little business has been done by this establishment.

Near the Potter mill, lived a Mr. Swinnington, who was so confident that a rich mine of gold and silver was located there, that he built a dam, to turn the water through the gulch in which he supposed the precious treasure was deposited, expecting to wash out immense treasures, but all his expectations failed and he felt that his labor was lost.

In 1880 M. F. and J. E. Latham built a twine mill a little north of the Phœnix cotton mills, 30 by 50 feet, two floors above the basement, where they had ten feet of water on a 40 inch Leffel wheel. This mill is now doing successful work. All the dams of the several mills in Phœnixville are in good condition and ought to be in full use. Latham's saw mill, grist mill, and shingle mill, are doing a large and successful business, and use the water privilege of the upper Phœnix mill to good advantage. The stone dam here bids fair to stand for ages, from its excellent construction.

Smith Snow was a son of Bilarky Snow, who owned a large tract of land in Eastford. Smith Snow married Sally Hyde. He was a decided business man, and gave but little time to the social conventionalities of life. The story is handed down of him that when he wedded his wife he returned from the wedding, which is supposed to have taken place at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. William Sherman, in the western part of Pomfret, changed his clothes and went to work in his mill, completing his day's work. Having done so he returned home at evening and found his house filled with guests met to properly celebrate the occasion. But he was not be thrown out of his usual habit even by such an innovation. When his usual bed-time came, which was early in the night, he disrobed in the kitchen and tucked himself away in the bed, telling his new wife that she could come when she got ready and take the back side, as he should take the front side of the bed himself.

The Phœnix Manufacturing Company, which succeeded Mr. Snow in the ownership of this mill, sold the Snow saw mill to Joseph B. Latham, who removed hither from Johnstown, R. I., when he was twenty-one years of age. He married Percy Bullard, a daughter of Zuinglius Bullard. Mr. Latham was a prominent man in Eastford, and represented the town in the legislature two or three times. He died April 21st, 1872, being seventy years of age. The mill is now owned by his son M. F. Latham, and it is occupied in grist grinding and sawing.

In the center of Eastford, there are also excellent water privileges. The Crystal lake, in the north part of the town, about half its contents in Woodstock, the rest in Eastford, is not only a beautiful place for excursions from the surrounding country, a favorite resort for fishermen, but its waters have been raised by a dam at its outlet, so that it is an excellent reservoir for all the mills on the stream below it. Early in its history, Eastford village had clothing works, doing a good business. These were burnt in 1837, and soon after, within the same year, Captain Jonathan Skinner built the cotton factory still standing. It was 36 by 60 feet on the ground, two floors above the basement, and employed some twenty hands. Cassimeres and jeans were manufactured. After the death of Captain Skinner, this mill passed into the hands of M. and James Keith, and has been used as a cotton mill, in the manufacture of woolen yarn, making of wooden wares and as a grist mill. It is now owned by James M. Keith and is used in the manufacture of woolen yarn and as a grist mill. Five or six hands are kept employed. Its business is said to be successful. A few rods north of this mill stood the Red Woolen mill. There Mr. Mumford, early in the history of the village, built and ran the mill, doing a good business in the manufacture of woolen cloths. Afterward it passed into the hands of Mr. Ormsby, who continued the business for many years, when the Arnold Brothers came into possession, built a large addition, and engaged in the making of cart and wagon wheels, and other wooden manufacturing, and the carriage manufacturing business. They did an extensive business for many years, but since they gave up the business but little has been done with the mills. The firm of Skinner & Hewett built a substantial stone cotton mill a short distance above the Mumford mill, 35 by 80 feet, two stories above the basement, employing some twenty operatives, and doing a good business. This mill was burnt in 1850 and has not been rebuilt.

A large tannery has also been in operation in the village for more than half a century. Mr. Dodge did business here for several years, when the stand passed into the hands of Deacon Joseph Barrows. He enlarged the establishment, increased the amount of business, and for more than forty years has done a large business. A few years since he took his son, Clark Barrows, into the firm, a steam engine of twenty-five horse power was procured for use in the building, and the leather of the Barrows Company stood high in the market, and still commands the best of prices. A large boot and shoe manufactory, employing a large number of hands, either in the establishment or in shoe binding at their homes, did for many years a thriving business. Mr. Hiram Burnham was at the head of this establishment. Near the close of his life the manufactory was burned, containing a large store of shoes and other goods, and the business was never resumed except in a small way, and at Mr. Burnham's death the business ceased.

For about half a century the carriage and blacksmith shop of William E. Cheney did a good business. In the last years of his life he added an undertaker's office, and kept an assortment of coffins, with a hearse, much for the convenience of the community. At his death in 1884, the establishment ceased to do business.

Usually one or two stores and a post office have existed in Phœnixville, some three or four stores and a post office in Eastford Center, and a store and post office in the section still called North Ashford. Several blacksmith shops have usually done business, and one in the Center was used for several years as an axe and hatchet factory. Captain Jairus Chapman did quite a thriving business in this factory, a fine trip-hammer being run by water power. In the olden time there was an axe factory in the northwest part of Eastford, and that section of the town still bears the name of the Axe Factory. Captain Jairus Chapman had carried on the same business before he sold his shop and removed to Eastford Center. His business was located in the west part of the town, where he manufactured scythes, broad axes, axes and hatchets. This business proved quite profitable, and the goods manufactured had a high reputation in the market. This shop was sold to Hon. Edwin A. Buck, now of Willimantic, and Hon. John Dean, who used the water privilege in preparing plow beams, plow handles, etc. Large quantities of

oak timber, growing extensively in the vicinity, thus brought good profit to the farmers of the neighborhood. This business closed when the timber was used up. Mr. L. M. Whitney is now running a bobbin factory in Eastford Center, making about 1,000 bobbins a day, which are sold to the manufactories in the region. A ten horse power steam engine is used in this factory.

The town of Eastford was incorporated in May, 1847, being taken from Ashford; population, 855; principal industry, agriculture. It is reached by stage from North Windham on the New York & New England railroad, from Putnam on the same road, and the Norwich & Worcester division of the same, daily. A Masonic lodge was established early in the present century, meeting for many years in a room in the mansion of the late Benjamin Bosworth, Esq. It is now united with the lodge in Putnam, where the meetings are now held. A grange of some sixty members, called the Crystal Lake Grange, has been established here. Ashford and a part of Woodstock unite with Eastford in sustaining this organization. A temperance society exists and holds regular meetings in the place. Distinguished men have been born in Eastford. Judge Andrew Judson, member of congress and district judge of the U. S. court; Hon. Elisha Carpenter, judge of the supreme court of errors in Connecticut; Hon. Jairus Carpenter, judge in Madison, Wis., lecturer on law and dean for the faculty in the State University of Wisconsin; Hon. Alvan Preston, for many years a partner and manager of the glass works in Ellenville, N. Y., and many others. General Nathaniel Lyon, who fell in the battle at Springfield, Mo., is buried in Eastford, by the side of his parents. His burial was attended with military honors, and was the largest assembly probably ever gathered in Windham county. Governor Buckingham, of Connecticut, and Governor Sprague, of Rhode Island, with other distinguished men in military and civil office, were present to honor the memory of one who probably saved the state of Missouri from joining the secessionists in the late rebellion. The mother of General Lyon was a niece of Colonel Knowlton, who took an active part in the battle of Bunker Hill, and who is reputed to be the prominent figure in the picture of that battle. It was his plan in the novel breastwork—two rows of rail fence parallel to each other, with the packing of fresh mown hay between—which probably made that battle an essential vic-

tory to the Americans. Lieutenant Daniel Knowlton, an elder brother of this Colonel Knowlton, was General Lyon's grandfather. The father of General Lyon was a mathematician, his mother had the energy of the Knowltons. An amusing anecdote is related of her. When a girl, she attended an evening party with her affianced lover. When the hostler of the tavern brought the sleigh to the door, the young man who waited upon her had become too much intoxicated to lift his foot over the side of the sleigh, and she saw her mates *giggling* at the position she was in. Quick as thought, she sprang into the sleigh, seized his collar with both hands, drew him into the sleigh, set him down with a firm hand, took the reins from the hostler's hands, and drove rapidly homeward. He became more and more helpless, but she drove directly to his father's house, opened the door, pulled him into the entry, aroused the family, said the young man had a fit or something, jumped into the sleigh, drove to her father's house, and sent her brother back with the horse and sleigh. When he came back with promises to reform, she wisely considered the prospect too forbidding, and waited for a better offer.

Franklin Sibley is a successful physician in one of our Western states, and two of his brothers were in good practice, but died in early life. Andrew J. Bowen is a lawyer in good practice in Willimantic, one of his brothers is a physician in the West, and Stephen Bowen, another brother, has been sheriff of the county, and is a large dealer in horses, bringing hither several car loads of western horses every year. Preston B. Sibley has filled the office of sheriff for several years, and is now quite a popular and successful keeper of the county jail in Brooklyn. Godfrey Works for several years was a manufacturer and a successful business man after his removal to Providence, R. I. Benjamin Bosworth was a large landholder, a merchant and a liberal contributor to objects of benevolence and charity. Benjamin Green, a successful manufacturer in the state of Maine, who paid half the price of the pipe organ in the Congregational church in Eastford, was also a native of the town.

The selectmen of the town are Munroe Latham, Charles Warren and George Lyon; Doctor Elisha Robbins is judge of probate, and Frank Bowen, collector.

Reverend Solomon Spaulding was born in Eastford, educated at Dartmouth College, preached in western New York, and

when out of health, for diversion, wrote a legendary story of the Indians, which is supposed to have furnished the basis of the Book of Mormon. His brother Josiah, who was with him when he wrote the legendary tale, and heard him read his manuscript, said they were so similar, that when he read the Mormon Bible, he usually knew what was to come before he read the pages. Rigdon, an elder, afterward high in office, borrowed the manuscript of the widow under the alleged purpose of using it to refute Mormonism, but would never return it to the owner.

Captain Joseph B. Latham should be named among the prominent business men of wealth in Eastford, also his son Eugene, a master machinist, recently killed instantly in Windsor Locks by being caught in the machinery in a mill. A few years since the firm of Smith, Winchester & Co., commisioned him to go to Egypt to put up machines in that distant country. Master John Griggs was a famous school teacher. When 75 years of age, he was still pursuing his favorite vocation. He taught over fifty terms in his own and neighboring towns, and is said to have had altogether more than three thousand pupils under his care. He wrote excellent poetry, as did his son Lucian, born in Eastford, remarkable for his memory. It is said that when he attempted it, he could repeat a lengthy speech or sermon nearly word for word, or a poem after once carefully reading it. An amusing anecdote is told of him in his days of early manhood. A schoolmate of his received proposals from a young gentleman, wishing to cultivate an acquaintance with matrimonial views. With a blushing hesitancy and apology, she said to Lucian, after stating the proposal, "You are well acquainted with him and I am not, what is it best for me to do? If he is an estimable man, I might like a further acquaintance." Lucian paused for a little, and then said, "He and I have always been good friends and I do not wish to say anything to his injury. I will give you a couplet in poetry, and you can draw your own inference. Trust not in any man, trust not in any brother; so girls, if you must love, love one another." She understood his advice and followed it. Lucian Griggs bid fair to become an eminent lawyer, practiced for a few years in Indiana, where he died, greatly lamented by his friends and the community.

The Congregational church in Eastford was organized September 23d, 1778; present at the organization, Reverends Stephen Williams, John Storrs and Elisha Hutchinson. The original

members were: Andrew Judson, Benjamin Sumner and wife, Jonathan Chapman and wife, Samuel Snow, Elisha Wales, Simeon Dean and wife. In May it was voted to hire Mr. Andrew Judson of Stratford, with the view of a settlement as pastor. At the same time it was voted to build a meeting house. In June it was voted that the county court committee set the stake on Lieutenant John Russel's land. A subscription was started, the society agreeing "that those that subscribe towards building a meeting house have liberty to build it of equal bigness with Woodstock's West Society meeting house," *i. e.*, 45 by 35 feet. The council met December 1st, 1778, to examine the candidate and arrange for his ordination and installation. December 2d Mr. Judson was set over the church as pastor. His salary was 70 pounds a year, and 500 pounds for settlement. Mr. Judson died in office, November 15th, 1804. During the last years of his life he was feeble in health, greatly depressed in spirits, and unable to preach, but his son John and others supplied his pulpit. In addition to the nine original members, ninety-nine were added to the church. Mr. Judson's ministry continued twenty-six years. Reverend Hollis Samson, having ministered before in his connection with the Methodist denomination, affirmed that he was now, and really always had been of the doctrinal belief of the Congregational church, preached much to the acceptance of the people, and in a church meeting called for the purpose, solemnly affirmed that he was in harmony with the church in faith and church polity, received a unanimous call to settle with them as their pastor. He was ordained by a council which met December 5th and 6th, 1809.

Mr. Samson remained pastor a little over six years, when he was reported as intemperate, and as having embraced the doctrine of the Universalists. He was dismissed without recommendation, May 27th, 1816. But few united with the church under his ministry, and the church did not prosper. At one time only about twenty members, and only six of these males, were found on the records. Reverend Asahel Nettleton, the noted evangelist, labored with this church with great success. The reviving was almost like a resurrection from the dead. Large numbers were gathered into the church. Sixty-three united with the church from the time of Mr. Samson's dismission to the installation of his successor, which took place May 31st, 1820, the new pastor being Reverend Reuben Torrey. His

salary was to be four hundred and fifty dollars, and twenty cords of wood annually, to be delivered at his door. Mr. Torrey continued pastor twenty years. He was dismissed April 28th, 1840. One hundred and twenty-eight members united with the church under his pastorate.

Reverend Francis Williams was ordained and installed September 22d, 1841. He remained ten years, and was dismissed November 12th, 1851. Seventy-two persons united with the church during his pastorate. Reverend Charles Chamberlain was installed April 14th, 1858. Fourteen had united with the church since the dismission of Mr. Williams. The following churches were invited to appear by pastor and delegate at the council: Ashford, Chaplin, Hampton, Willimantic, Windham, West Killingly, Abington, West Woodstock, North Woodstock, East Woodstock. This pastorate continued nine years and sixty-eight members were added to the church during this time. He was dismissed March 14th, 1867. Reverend Clinton M. Jones was installed May 8th, 1872. A very interesting centennial of this church was observed September 23d, 1878. A historical discourse by the pastor, reminiscences by Reverend F. Williams, Moses Torrey, Esq., son of a former pastor and others, and letters from those who could not be present, made this an occasion long to be remembered. This pastorate continued sixteen years. Sixty-five persons united with the church during this ministry. Reverend C. M. Jones was dismissed June 22d, 1888. The church is at present without a pastor. Five hundred and forty-five have united with the church from its organization. Benjamin Sumner was chosen deacon February 21st, 1779; Jonathan Chapman, February 28th, 1781; Noah Paine, January 1st, 1790; Samuel Sumner, August 15th, 1799; Elijah Deans, May 23d, 1817; Elisha Trowbridge, May 23d, 1817; Dyer Carpenter, August 31st, 1820; Allen Bosworth, July 1825; Earl C. Preston and Henry Work, September 21st, 1834; Harvey Lummis, December 31st, 1842; Joseph D. Barrows, April 26th, 1844; George S. Deans, March 20th, 1873. In all thirteen deacons have served this church, only three of which are now living—Deacons Preston, Barrows and Deans; and only two pastors—Reverend Francis Williams and C. M. Jones. The present membership of the church is eighty-three.

The present meeting house was erected in 1829. It was dedicated December 23d of the same year. Esquire Bosworth pur-

chased the old meeting house, removed it from the common and made it into a dwelling house. The day for the removal was fixed, men were invited with their teams, and all was ready for the start, when a delegation came to Esquire Bosworth, saying the oxen would not draw unless the teamsters were treated. Esquire Bosworth had recently identified himself with the temperance cause, and the "rummies" hoped to bring him to terms, but they mistook their man. The words of his pastor at his funeral, "He was one of the firmest oaks that ever grew upon Mt. Zion," were well spoken. Instantly the reply came, "It will rot down where it is, first." Enough teams were unhitched to prevent the moving that day, but immediately an offer came from neighboring towns to furnish teams that would draw though the teamsters were *not* treated. Esquire Bosworth left a legacy of a thousand dollars, the interest to be applied to help support a *settled* orthodox minister, and for the support of no other.

A series of conference meetings held in North Ashford resulted in the formation of a society and a vote to build a meeting house in 1793. It was voted that the house be forty feet long and thirty feet wide, with a porch to furnish a better way to go into the gallery. Timothy Allen gave two acres of land on which to build the church and parsonage. The church was organized November 5th, 1794, recognized as in fellowship by a council. Original members were: Ephraim Hayward, Ebenezer Curtis, Jonathan Carpenter, Jesse Bugbee, Marcus Bugbee, Ezra Hayward, John Hayward and Abigail Hayward. The present membership is seventy-five.

A new meeting house was built in 1843. It was 48 feet long, with a projection of 5 feet for entrance, and 36 feet wide. Elder Bennet, then their minister, preached the dedication sermon. The pastors have been: Daniel Bolton, 1796; Ledoit Noah, 1811; Buckley Waters, 1814; Stephen Haskel, 1819; Leonard Gage, 1829; Alvan Bennet, Alfred Trum, 1842; Rensselaer Putney, 1844; George Mixter, 1846; Tubal Wakefield, 1852; Gilman Stow, 1858; Erastus Andrews, 1865; C. B. Rockwell, 1873; Percival Mathewson, 1878; A. A. Robinson, 1885; Asa Randlett, 1887; sixteen pastors in all. The deacons have been: Ephraim Howard, Joseph Burley, Benjamin Corbin, Jairus Chapman, John Burley, Oliver M. Angel and Frederick Davidson.

Several Baptist ministers have been natives of Eastford. Elder Bolles had three sons who rose to eminence, Matthew, Augustus and Lucius; also Charles, son of Judge David Bolles, and Isaiah C. Carpenter.

The Methodists had a circuit established in Eastford in 1826. Several years before that they built a small church in the western part of the town, and among other preachers the eccentric Lorenzo Dow sometimes preached in this house. In 1831 a new meeting house was built in the Center, jointly by the Methodists and the Universalists, each having the right to occupy it half the time. In 1847 the Methodists built a meeting house for their own use, procured a fine pipe organ, built a room for town purposes in the basement, also a vestry for their evening worship. Captain Skinner, Mr. Mumford, Mr. Keith, Willard Lyon, Mr. Hewett, Mr. Hiram Burnham, Captain Leonard Dean and other men of wealth and influence, caused this church to be quite flourishing, but when they passed away it began to decline, and now for much of the time no service is maintained, and no preacher is sent by the conference. This church has raised up ministers who have filled stations of usefulness. Among these Isaac Sherman, John Sherman and Orson Dodge may be mentioned.

The Congregational church has also furnished ministers who have done good service in the cause of their Master. Chester Carpenter, son of Deacon Carpenter, graduated at Amherst College and at the Theological Institute at East Windsor Hill. He was ordained at Sinclairville, N. Y., September 25th, 1845, but was attacked with hemorrhage of the lungs, and went South, started for home and died on the way, April 17th, 1867. Reverend John P. Trowbridge, now of Bethlehem, Conn., who has been and still is a pastor of eminence and success, as also a native of this town, may be mentioned.

Select schools have from time to time been in successful operation. Some of the teachers have been: Hon. Samuel Jones, a distinguished criminal lawyer now of Hartford; Hon. Edwin Jones, of Chaplin, now a millionaire of Minneapolis, and Reverend John R. Freeman. In her eight school districts Eastford has had eminent and successful teachers; men like Master John Griggs, Calvin Whitney, Esq., the two judges, Elisha and Jairus Carpenter, and ladies of marked ability and success. Such teachers in our common schools do a work that tells for good

upon the rising generation. An amusing incident occurred in the history of one of the solid citizens of Eastford in his early boyhood. For some misbehavior his teacher made him creep under the teacher's table standing in the middle of the room, with the remark, "If you act like a dog be a dog in your place under the table." Soon the minister came in to visit the school, when "Bow-wow! bow-wow!" was the instant greeting he received from under the table. Explanations were given, a hearty laugh indulged, and the scholar had permission to take his seat. Hon. Charles D. Hine, secretary of the state board of education, has a summer residence in Eastford, and the schools receive the benefit of his influence.

A very eccentric man in Eastford, many years since, furnished an item for the page of history, which perhaps fails of finding a parallel in all our modern records. Mr. Ephraim Lyon instituted, as he called it, a church of Bacchus, the membership to be of those who indulged in the use of intoxicating liquors to excess. He did not invite members to enroll their names, nor did he ask their consent to have their names recorded. He took the business into his own hunds, kept his church records himself, and claimed to be very conscientious in his work. He named himself as the high priest, saying he must become badly intoxicated several times each year in order that he might hold the office. He appointed his deacons from those he called the most "*zeelous members.*" He lived in the southeastern part of Eastford, removing to Westford toward the close of his life, but keeping up the organization while he lived. His members resided in Eastford, Ashford, Chaplin, Hampton, Pomfret and perhaps some other towns in the near vicinity. The membership sometimes reached the number of one thousand or more. All must be what are commonly called drunkards. Most were men, but he had a few women in his church, some of them "*zeelous* members." If any became members of temperance societies or reformed they were promptly excommunicated, and their names stricken from the roll of membership, but if they relapsed into their old habits their names were re-enrolled. It was his boast that few failed to come back who had been cut off. So great was the dread of being enrolled on his books that his life was threatened by some drinking men in case he put their names on his book, and he sometimes had to run for his life, but with the spirit of a martyr he was true to his official work; noth-

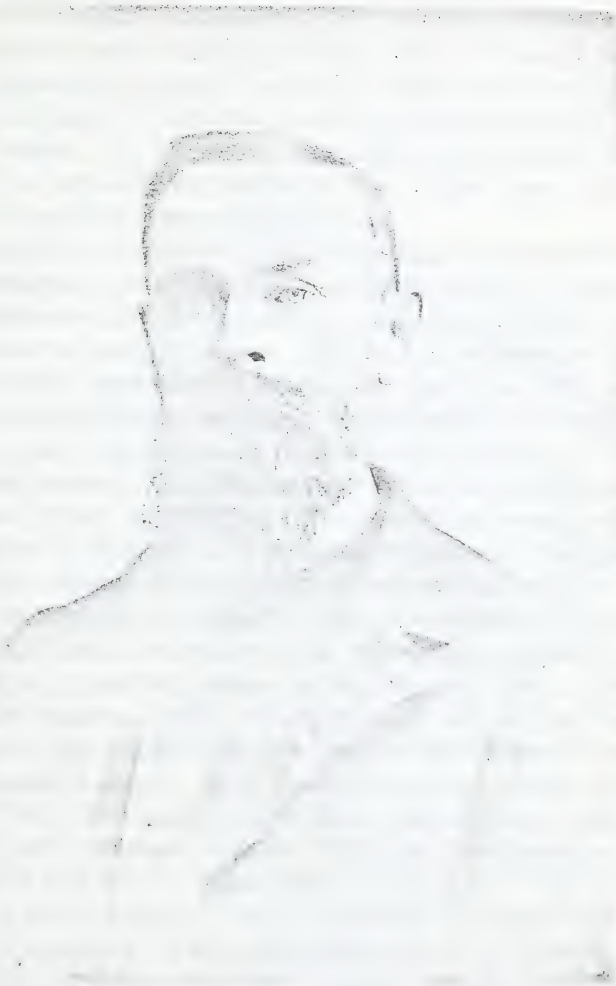
ing moved him from his purpose. His wife became so alarmed at their threatenings, lest they should wreak their vengeance upon him, that she burned his book of church records, but he soon replaced it, and hid it carefully for its future safety. He read it in companies where he felt safe in so doing, so that none could be enrolled without it soon being known to the reluctant members and others that they were members of the church of Bacchus, to be put in official positions when they became sufficiently "*zeelous*." The eyes of some were opened to see how they were regarded, and reformation followed, and it was thought it exerted a salutary check upon some young men who feared they might be enrolled as members. Members who died in full membership were said to go to the Bacchanalian revels of their patron god.

The Eastford Creamery is a co-operative concern with a capital of $2,000, organized as a joint stock company. The directors are: J. M. Herendeen, D. M. Bent, H. K. Safford, M. F. Latham, C. O. Warren, E. W. Warren and S. O. Bowen. C. O. Warren was chosen secretary, and also acts as superintendent. The company was presented with a piece of land (by S. O. Bowen) on the highway leading from Eastford village to Phœnixville, with the privilege of digging a well, and conveying water from a favorable point above the site of the building, which gives a good fall and great abundance of water.

The benefits of a creamery were first agitated in the Grange, which interested many of the leading citizens of this community and some of the farmers of Woodstock, which culminated in the agreement to establish a creamery. The building committee was J. E. Latham, J. M. Herendeen and Henry Trowbridge, who commenced work soon after the ground opened in the spring.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

Stephen Oliver Bowen.—Stephen and Rebecca Bowen were the grandparents of the subject of this biography. His parents were Oliver and Betsey Bowen, the former having removed to Eastford in 1822, where he resided until his death, in 1879. He was during his active life a successful farmer and produce dealer. His wife survived him and is still a resident of Eastford. Their son, Stephen O. Bowen, was born in Eastford, April 8th, 1840. He received an elementary education, and afterward spent a



S. O. Bowen

ARTOTYPE, E. BIERSTADT, N. Y.

season at the State Normal school, pursuing his studies with a view to proficiency as a teacher. The succeeding ten or more winters were devoted to teaching, the summer months being given to farming and dealing in live stock. Though most of his life a successful farmer, he was for some time engaged in trade, and has been for several years an extensive dealer in and shipper of horses. By honest dealing and strict integrity he has established an enviable reputation in this department of traffic, and won a large and increasing patronage.

Mr. Bowen has been active in all the public measures affecting his town, and one of its prominent political factors. Reared in the Jeffersonian school of democracy, he has ever been a steadfast exponent of its principles. He was a delegate to the national democratic convention, held at St. Louis in 1888, and for several years the popular candidate of the party for representative in the state legislature, against a heavy majority. To this office he was elected in 1876, during which session he served on the school fund committee. He has filled nearly all the local positions in the gift of his townspeople, and is at present justice of the peace, town treasurer and school visitor. For more than twenty-five years he has been a member of the school board, several times selectman, and repeatedly elected to the office of judge of probate, when he adjudicated upon a number of important estates. His efficiency and wide experience in these matters have caused his services to be in demand as administrator and trustee. Mr. Bowen was for several years a director of the Eastford Savings Bank, and is now president of the Eastford Creamery, of the Eastford Temperance Association, and of the Eastford Library Association. He is much interested in the "Grange" as a promoter of successful agriculture, and was for two years master of the Crystal Lake Grange, as also overseer of the Pomona Grange of Windham county. Mr. Bowen is a member and an officer of the Congregational church of Eastford, and one of its principal supporters. He was married April 8th, 1864, to Miss Abbie Lee Spencer of Pomfret. They have had seven children, of whom two sons and two daughters are living.

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS.

WINDHAM.

Ansel Arnold, youngest son of Samuel and Amity (Pomeroy) Arnold, was born in Somers, Conn., August 8th, 1815. At the age of 21 he commenced the manufacture of shaker hoods at Mansfield Centre, which he continued till 1841, when he removed to Somerville, and was engaged in that enterprise in connection with keeping a general store till 1851. He then disposed of his manufactory, and continued to run the store till 1870, when he came to Willimantic and engaged in the flour and feed business, under the firm name of A. Arnold & Co. He is president of the W. G. & A. R. Morrison Co., president of the Board of Trade, vice-president of the First National Bank, and director of the Dime Savings Bank. He married for his second wife, Maria, daughter of Horace Chapman, and has two children—Willie and Louie. He represented the town of Somers in the legislature in 1857, and the town of Windham in 1876.

The Backus Family.—The common ancestor of the Norwich and Windham families of this name was William Backus of Saybrook, who removed to Norwich in 1660. His children were William and Stephen. The former, who was known as Lieutenant William, was one of the original proprietors of Windham. He married Elizabeth Pratt, and had the following family: William, John, Sarah (who married Edward Culver), Samuel, Joseph and Nathaniel. William, the eldest son of Lieutenant William, was born in 1660, and settled in Windham as early as 1693, for his name is found in the first list of (22) inhabitants, made in that year. Previous to this his father gave him one of his thousand acre rights, which was located at Windham Centre. He married Mary Dunton, August 31st, 1692, and died January 25th, 1742. He had the following family: Samuel, Abigail (died in infancy), Mary, Daniel, Hannah, Peter, William, Stephen and Ephraim. Samuel (son of William) was born July 5th, 1693.

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and married December 2d, 1719. His children were: Mary, died aged 17 years; Lemuel, shot by the Indians; Andonijah, Nathaniel, Abigail, married Samuel Huntingdon of Mansfield, and Ann. Nathaniel (son of Samuel) was married to Elizabeth Hebard, daughter of Robert Hebard, October 7th, 1753, and his children were: Elijah (who emigrated to Vermont), Huldah, Calvin, Luther and perhaps others. Nathaniel died December 14th, 1815. Luther (son of Nathaniel) was born about 1772, and had three wives and twenty children, probably the largest family ever raised in Windham. Of this family Harry was the oldest, and married Susan D., daughter of Dan Sawyer, January 3d, 1819. Their children were: Julia Ann, Albert Henry, John C., Avery, Huldah Main, Eliza Elizabeth, Luther F., Mary M., Chester H. and George Abbe. Luther F. (son of Harry), born March 5th, 1828, married Ann Canniff. They had five children: William Christopher, born June 15th, 1854, married Hattie, daughter of S. O. Hatch, and is a member of the firm of Backus Bros.; Luther Edwin, born January 29th, 1856, married Annie Shay, and has two children—Helen C. and Florence, and resides in South Windham; George Harlow, married Lizzie A. Lamb, and is a member of the firm of Backus Bros.; James Henry, died in infancy, and Charles Henry, born January 2d, 1865. Luther F. died August 7th, 1883.

Reverend Nicholas Baker, born about 1611, was in Hingham, Mass., in 1635, and became a freeman in 1636. He was representative in 1636 and 1638, and removed to Scituate, where in 1660 he was ordained, and was third minister of the First church of that town. He reconciled the two churches of that town, which had quarreled for thirty years. He was a graduate of St. John's College, Cambridge, England, and received the degrees A. B. in 1631–32 and A. M. in 1635. He first located at Roxbury. He died August 23d, 1678, and his will names the following children: Samuel, Nicholas, Elizabeth (married John Vinal), Sarah (married Josiah Litchfield), Deborah (married Israel Chittenden) and Mary (married Stephen Vinal). Samuel, son of Nicholas, resided in Hull and Barnstable, and married a daughter of Isaac Robinson. Of this family we have no record, but he is without doubt the father of the Windham settler, Deacon John Baker, who was born at Martha's Vineyard in October, 1672, and married October 4th, 1693, Anna, daughter of Samuel Annable, of Barnstable. He came to Windham county with his two sons,

Samuel and John, before 1746, and located in what is now Scotland. He died January 27th, 1763, aged 90. His children were: Hannah, Mercy (married Benjamin Lathrop), John (died in infancy), Rebecca, Samuel, Mary (married Lemuel Hodge, of Yarmouth), Mehitable (married Ebenezer Crosby, of Yarmouth), Abigail (married Ichabod Lathrop, of Tolland), John and Hannah. Deacon Samuel, son of Deacon John, was born in Barnstable, Mass., September 7th, 1706, and came to Windham county with his father. He was a member of the Scotland church, and was chosen deacon April 10th, 1777. He married Prudence Jenkins, of Barnstable, May 30th, 1732. Of his family the following were born in Barnstable: Martha (married Nathaniel Bingham, of Windham), Anna (died in infancy), Bethia, Samuel, and Mercy, died aged about 23 years. The following children were born in Windham: Anna (died unmarried aged over 70), Joseph, Benjamin and Prudence (married Abner Webb). Deacon Samuel died December 9th, 1791. Joseph, son of Deacon Samuel, was born December 17th, 1748, was a physician and settled in Brooklyn, where he praticed till his death, May 16th, 1804. He married Lucy, daughter of Reverend Ebenezer Devotion, of Scotland. Their children were: Elizabeth, married P. P. Tyler, of Brooklyn, Conn.; Deborah, married Thaddeus Clark, of Lebanon (Their daughter, Sarah Jane, is the well known writer, Grace Greenwood. She married Leander K. Lippincott, and resides in New York city); Ebenezer, succeeded his father as physician in Brooklyn, where he died; Martha, married Solomon W. Williams, of Lebanon, Conn.; James, a lieutenant in the United States army, died at Savannah, Ga.; Rufus Lathrop; Lucy Maria, married the late Reverend Willard Preston, of Savannah, Ga.; Mary, married Jonathan A. Welch, of Brooklyn, Conn.; and Joseph, twin of Mary, died in infancy. Rufus Lathrop, son of Doctor Joseph, was born December 6th, 1790, was appointed ensign in the United States army in 1812, lieutenant in 1813, captain in 1817, major in 1832, lieutenant colonel in 1852, resigned in January, 1855, and died in Windham June 5th, 1868. He married Eliza, daughter of Charles Taintor, of Windham, and his children were: Charles Taintor, and William Rufus, born at Alleghany Arsenal, Pittsburgh, Pa., May 15th, 1830, graduated from Union College in Schenectady, N. Y., and resides in Paris. Charles Taintor was born in Windham April 13th, 1821, graduated at the Military Academy in 1842, was ap-

pointed lieutenant in the United States army, served in Florida and as instructor in tactics at West Point, and resigned in 1851. He married Ann Bartlett, daughter of Jonathan Dwight, of Springfield, Mass., and came to Windham in 1868, where he died February 28th, 1880. His children were: Ella, Cora (wife of Henry S. F. Davis, of New York city), Anna Dwight (wife of Julian Alden Weir, of New York city, who is a son of Professor Robert Weir, of West Point).

Jerome B. Baldwin, son of Raymond, was born in Mansfield, September 14th, 1843. At the outbreak of the war he joined the 21st Connecticut volunteers and served three years. He returned to Mansfield at the expiration of his enlistment, came to Willimantic in 1865 and in connection with his brother formed the firm of G. R. & J. B. Baldwin for the sale of clothing. His brother's death occurring in 1867 the firm was dissolved and Mr. Baldwin was for the next nine years employed as a clothing salesman by John G. Keigwin, and in 1876 he purchased the stock from his employer and in connection with Frank F. Webb formed a partnership under the style of Baldwin & Webb, which continued till 1886, when he purchased his partner's interest. He married Ella M., daughter of A. B. Adams, and has three children: Emma Bell, Jane May and Georgie Ella. Mr. Baldwin was a member of the Connecticut legislature in 1886.

Robert Barrows, son of Robert (who was the common ancestor of the Mansfield families), was born November 8th, 1689, and came to Mansfield about 1720. He married at Plymouth, Bethia Ford. Their children born at Plymouth were: Jabez, Lemuel and Thomas. Their children born in Mansfield were: Amos, Lydia, David and Elisha. Robert Barrows died November 12th, 1773. Lieutenant Thomas (son of Robert), born September 13th, 1716, married for his first wife Mehitable, daughter of Deacon Experience Porter April 30th, 1741. By her he had a child, Experience, who died at the age of five years. He married Abigail, daughter of John Crane, February 2d, 1743-4, and had the following children: Abigail, married Nathan Palmer; Mehitable, married Thomas Swift, Jr.; Thomas, died in infancy, and Thomas. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Philip Turner, January 9th, 1751-52. His children by this marriage were: Solomon; Mary, married Asa Bennett; Experience, died at Stamford, Conn., and was a soldier in the revolu-

tionary war; Elizabeth, died unmarried, aged 78 years; Philip, Eleazer, Lydia, married Joseph Southworth; Lemuel, and Caleb Turner, who died in New York state. Philip (son of Lieutenant Thomas) was born November 29th, 1760, and resided in Mansfield, where he died August 16th, 1809. He married a widow, Sarah Fisk, daughter of Joshua Parker, March 29th, 1787. Their children were: Sarah, deceased, married Ira Bennett; Philip, deceased; Harmony, died in childhood; Phares, Stephen Fisk, died in New York state; Amasa died in New York state; Celia, married Asa Lyon and died at Fredericksburg, Va., and Thomas Adam, died in Connecticut. Phares (son of Philip), born May 20th, 1797, resided in South Mansfield and married for his first wife Alma Parrott of Pomfret, Conn., May 20th, 1820. His children were: Edwin Augustus, Harriet Sophia, married Joseph B. Spencer of South Windham; Elizabeth Gyles, married Nathan Griggs of Chaplin, and for her second husband Jesse Turner of Chaplin; Sarah Lucinda, married David A. Griggs of Chaplin; Mary A., married Milo M. Hibbard of East Homer, N. Y., and Delia Maria, deceased, married Deacon Waldo Bass of Scotland. Phares was married three times, and died in 1881. Edwin Augustus, son of Phares, born March 28th, 1821, was twice married; first to Anna J. Hanks, second May 21st, 1851, to Emily Ashley of Chaplin. His children, all by his second wife, were: Daniel Clifford, born April 10th, 1853; Edwin and Emily, twins, died in infancy; and Anna Maria, died at the age of six years. Father and son are both doing business in Willimantic, the latter being a jeweller.

Henry Brainard was born in East Haddam, Conn., December 9th, 1794. He came to Willimantic to reside in 1829, and was engaged by the Windham Manufacturing Company for twelve years in teaming from Providence to Willimantic. In 1841 he removed to Marlborough, Conn., remained there four years, and married there Miss Amelia Blish. He then returned to Willimantic and purchased what was known as the Tremont House, which he kept as a hotel till 1854, when he purchased the Brainard Hotel, and enlarged the same and carried on business there till 1862, when he retired. He died March 11th, 1884.

The Brown Family.—The English ancestor of this family was John Brown, who was acquainted with the pilgrims at Leyden before 1620, but the date of his coming to this country is unknown. He settled in Plymouth colony, was at Duxbury, Mass.,

in 1636, at Taunton in 1643, and was an original proprietor and early settler of Rehoboth, Mass. He was assistant in Plymouth colony in 1636, which office he filled for seventeen years, and was one of the commissioners of the United Colonies of New England from 1644 to 1655. He was a large real estate owner in Rehoboth and was a friend of religious toleration, and was the first of the Plymouth magistrates who expressed scruples as to the expediency of coercing the people to support the ministry. He was a man of talent, integrity and piety, and his death, which occurred by fever April 10th, 1662, was felt throughout the whole colony. He had the following children, who were all probably born in England: James, who died at Swansea, October 29th, 1710, aged 87 years; Mary, who married John Willett, and John, who married a daughter of William Buckland, lived in Swansea and died March 31st, 1662. He had the following children: John, Lydia, Hannah, Joseph and Nathaniel. Captain John (son of John above) was born on the last Friday in September, 1650, and married November 8th, 1672, Anna, daughter of Major John Mason, of Norwich, Conn., the hero of the Pequot war. He was held in high estimation by his Mason relatives and the Mohegan Indians, and under date of March 2d, 1677, his brother-in-law, Samuel Mason, gave him a thousand acre right, which was located in what is now Windham, and part of this land is now owned by Elias P. Brown. Captain Brown lived among the stirring scenes of Philip's war, and probably did active service in that struggle. Efforts were made to induce Captain Brown to settle in Windham but without avail. The exact date of his death is not known, but it was previous to 1711. His children were: John, who married Abigail Cole, and died at Swansea in 1752; Lydia, married Joseph Wadsworth, of Lebanon, Conn.; Martha, married Deacon Eleazer Fitch, of Lebanon, Conn.; Daniel, died in infancy; Ebenezer, died in Lebanon, Conn., aged 100 years; Daniel, Stephen and Joseph. Of this family Stephen was born January 29th, 1688, and located on a thousand acre grant of his father in Windham about 1717. He took part in the famous Hartford suit in 1722, in which his cousin, Jeremiah Fitch, of Coventry, was liberated from jail, where he had been imprisoned on account of some decision respecting the Hop river lands. He was married three times; first to Mary Risley in June, 1729, by whom he had one child, Stephen, Jr. His second wife was Abigail, daughter of Thomas

Rugg, of Mansfield, by whom he had one child, Abigail, who became the wife of George Anderson, of Mansfield. His third wife was Mary Jacobs, and the children by this marriage were Mary and John. Stephen died in October, 1766. John (son of Stephen) was born June 18th, 1742, and besides cultivating a farm and keeping a country tavern, carried on the manufacture of potash and the refining of saltpetre, he being the only person in this part of the country who understood the latter business. He was engaged in the revolutionary war, and during that struggle prepared the saltpetre used in the Willimantic powder mills. He was also employed by the state and was highly esteemed by Governor Trumbull. He married December 22d, 1763, Sybil, daughter of Jabez Barrows, of Mansfield. He died in December, 1824, aged 82. His wife died in January, 1837, aged 93. Their children were: Roswell, who died unmarried; Lydia, who married William Spafford and settled at Troy, N. Y.; John, Eunice, married Asa Brace and settled in New York state; Clarissa, married Samuel Babcock and settled at Westmoreland, N. Y.; Asenath, married Nathaniel Fitch and settled at Verona, N. Y.; Sybil, married Jedidiah Fitch and settled at Verona, N. Y.; Jabez, and Lucinda, who married Jabez Cummings, of Mansfield. John (son of John) was born November 16th, 1769, and was married three times. His first wife was Olive Martin, by whom he had the following children: Julia, died young; Roswell, died unmarried; E. Nathan, died in Lebanon, Conn., and Eliphalet, died in Willimantic. His second wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Elias Palmer, of Coventry. The children of this marriage were: Albert Banks, who died in Illinois; Maria Arnold, married Dwight Bailey, of Franklin, Conn., where she died; Elias Palmer, Wealthy, who married Frederick Curtis, of Saugerties, N. Y., where she died; Sarah, deceased, married V. R. Hovey; John Dwight, unmarried, killed by explosion of a powder mill in Manchester, aged 24 years; and Ralph Williams, died aged 8 years. His third wife was Nancy Fitch. He died April 27th, 1841. Elias Palmer (son of John), born May 30th, 1810, married Salina Dickinson. They had six children: Howard Z., born April 9th, 1839, married Lucy Tefft (They have a family of four children: Curtis Palmer, Jessie, Earl and Helen. He is engaged in paper manufacturing in town of Colchester, Conn.); Sarah A., wife of Charles Ladd, of West Winsted, Conn.; Ellen, resides at Gurleyville, Conn.; Edwin M., born September 12th, 1843, married

Carrie Wheeler (He has the following family: Edward M., Carrie, Howard and Pearl. He is engaged in business with his brother); Maria E., resides with her parents, and Mattie A., wife of J. F. Chandler, of East Woodstock, Conn. John (son of John) was born November 17th, 1816, married Rebecca T. Lyon and had three children: Wealthy J., died at the age of 29; Inez M., and John Dayton, born December 12th, 1856, married Nellie Hills and resides at Plainville, Conn.

S. L. Burlingham was born in Killingly, Conn., March 1st, 1845, being the son of Lewis and Eliza (Robbins) Burlingham. He came to Willimantic in 1857, and was employed by the Holland Silk Co. as boss finisher when they opened their works in that borough, and has been in the employ of the company ever since.

The Burnham Family.—All the families of this name in Windham county are descended from Deacon John Burnham, one of three brothers, who was born in England in either 1616 or 1626, and came to Ipswich in 1635. He died November 5th, 1694. His children were: John, Josiah, Anna (married a Low) and Elizabeth (married Thomas Kinsman). Josiah, son of Deacon John, was born May 9th, 1662, and died October 25th, 1692. He married Abigail, daughter of Thomas Varney, and their children were: Josiah, Jacob and Ebenezer, born December 23d, 1690, died March 10th, 1746. Ebenezer came from Ipswich, Mass., to Hampton, Conn., in 1733 or 1734, purchased a farm in that town, and joined the church October 20th, 1734. His children were: Joshua, Ebenezer, Joseph, Andrew, Isaac and Dorothy, who married Captain William Hebard. Andrew, son of Ebenezer, was born May 28th, 1726, and died in 1786. He married May 11th, 1757, Jane, daughter of William Bennet. His children were: Andrew, William, Elizabeth (married Milan Hebard), Sarah, Adonijah, Mercy, Rufus and Enoch. Adonijah, son of Andrew, was born in Hampton July 25th, 1770, and died May 31st, 1827. He married Abigail Fuller. Their children were: Luther, Asa, Anson, Lyman, Chester (the four last dying unmarried), Clarissa (married B. F. Robinson) and Jane E. (married Chester D. Burnham). Luther, son of Adonijah, was born in Williamstown, Vt., November 20th, 1800, married April 29th, 1827, Marcia, daughter of Jonah Lincoln, and had the following children: Marcia M. and Lucy A., died in childhood; Lucy M., died aged 20 years; Edward L., Ellen F. (deceased), married to

Hon. Lester Hunt; and Stowell L., a lieutenant in the 82d Ohio regiment, killed at the battle of Gettysburg, aged 25 years. Luther was a member of the legislature in 1849 and 1862, and removed to the town of Windham about 1830. He married for his second wife Jane W., daughter of Ralph Lincoln, and died April 28th, 1878. Edward L., son of Luther, was born in Windham October 18th, 1833, and married December 13th, 1865, Sarah E. Peck, a native of Chaplin. They have had five children, two of whom died young, viz., Anna Porter and Edward L. The others are Stowell L., Ellen C. and John P. William, son of Andrew, married Lois Grow. Their children were: Elisha, William, Rufus, Lucius, Marcus, Mason, Lois (died at the age of 18) and Marvin. There were two other children who died young. Elisha, son of William, married Phebe Avery. Their children were: Edwin E., Alfred A. (deceased), Lucy Ann (married Wolcott Carey, of Hampton), Redelia (wife of James Smith, of Windham), and Amanda (deceased), married to Charles Larrabee, of Windham. Elisha was a blacksmith and owned a saw mill, and lived in what is now Scotland. Edwin E., son of Elisha, was born in Windham October 16th, 1816, and married Amanda, daughter of Captain Dan Lincoln. They have two children: Adelaide, wife of Samuel L. Burlingham, treasurer of the Holland Silk Company, and Emeline, wife of W. H. Latham. William, son of William, was born in Windham in July, 1797, and died July 31st, 1836. He married and had three children, of whom only two arrived at maturity. They were George W. and Eliza (deceased), who married Doctor Fred. Coe, who was a Christian minister and came from an Ashford family. William removed from his native town to Ohio and joined the Shakers at Watervliet in that state. He subsequently returned to Connecticut, became a member of the Shaker village in Enfield, and remained with them eight years, then returned to his native town. George W., son of William, was born at Milford, Ohio, December 7th, 1818, married Miranda Smith and has had five children: Sarah, died aged 4½ years: Delia, George A., married Nancy Babcock, and died at the age of 34, leaving two children, Estella M. and Agnes; Eva, wife of Henry Edgarton, of Shirley, Mass., and Sarah, who married Eugene M. Lincoln, and died aged 25.

Martin Card was born in Lebanon, April 10th, 1823. He was the son of Thomas and grandson of Joseph, both of whom lived to be 92 years of age and were natives of Rhode Island. Martin

was long engaged in the butchering business, from which he retired in 1885. He married Lydia Fitch and has two children: Clinton, who resides in South Windham, and Annie.

Horace M. Chapman, born in Russell, St. Lawrence county, N. Y., September 6th, 1818, is the son of Parley and Roxa (McKnight) Chapman. At the age of six his parents removed from New York to their native town of Ellington, Conn. He was a resident of Ellington till 1880, when he came to Willimantic. While in the former town he was engaged in farming, and while in Willimantic was engaged in the flour and feed business, being a member of the firm of A. Arnold & Co. He married Julia Ann Tiffany, of Somers. They have had two children: Willie, who died aged 26, and Maria, wife of Ansel Arnold, of Willimantic. Mr. Chapman is a democrat. He was a member of the legislature in 1861 from Ellington, and held town offices in that town. He has been warden of the borough of Willimantic.

James A. Conant, born in Mansfield August 16th, 1829, is the eldest son of Lucius and Mary E. (Eaton) Conant, and is a lineal descendant of Roger Conant, who came to America in 1623. At the age of fifteen he engaged in the silk business, which he has followed ever since, excepting one year, when he was engaged in farming, and about seven years, when he was employed by the Watertown Manufacturing Company. He has been in the employ of the Hollands since the spring of 1864, and holds the position of superintendent of the throwing department. He married Caroline A. Chapman, and has one son, John W., a resident of Easthampton, Conn. He is superintendent of the throwing department for the Eureka Manufacturing Company at that place. He married Nellie Blood and has two children. Mr. Conant married for his second wife Mary Etta, widow of Andrew Brown.

William H. Cranston, born in Wickford, R. I., May 17th, 1814, is the fifth child and fourth son of a family of eleven children, of Thomas and Alice (Eldridge) Cranston. At the age of eighteen he entered a mill and was at one time employed by the Spragues in their mills at Natick, R. I. He came to Mansfield in 1842 and engaged in farming for three years. He then removed to Willimantic and was employed by the Windham Manufacturing Company as overseer, which position he held till 1861. He was afterward with the Smithville Manufacturing Company

till 1865, when he removed to Corry, Pa., but returned to Willimantic in 1868 and was engaged with the Smithville Manufacturing Company till 1873, when he retired from active business. His first wife was Safety Prosser, by whom he had one child, William, who married Alice Prosser, and died at the age of 37, leaving one son, Allen Lincoln Cranston, who resides in Willimantic. His second wife was Mary Saunders.

Hezekiah Hammond, son of Hezekiah, married Polly Greenslit and had four children: Elisha Griffin, Mary Ann, widow of Edward Moseley, of Hampton; Maria, (deceased) married William Brown, of Hampton, and Albert, died at the age of 4 years. Hezekiah married for his second wife Hannah Warner, of Ashford, by whom he had the following children: Charlotte Lucinda, widow of Gurdon Brown, resides in Brooklyn, Conn.; Helen Elizabeth, wife of Edwin Walter Payne, of Philadelphia; Frances Jane (deceased), married Edwin S. Chase, of Brooklyn, Conn.; and Lucy Griffin (deceased), married Hiram Waldo Richmond, of Brooklyn, Conn. Hezekiah removed from Hampton to Brooklyn, where he died. Elisha Griffin, son of Hezekiah, was born in Hampton, Conn., May 26th, 1805, and married Olive Johnson, of Windham. Their children are: Emily, wife of Henry B. Perry, who resides in New York state; George, died single, aged 20 years; Mary Ann, wife of Ellis Harkness, of New York city; Levi Johnson and Hezekiah Griffin, twins, resided in Windham. Mr. Hammond has been a resident of Windham since 1833.

Robert W. Hooper, born in Winchendon, Mass., March 24th, 1817, is the second son in a family of eight children of Linus and Susan (Wilcox) Hooper. In 1831 he came to Willimantic with his mother. He entered a mill at the age of ten at Manchester, Conn., afterward went to Vernon, Conn., and in 1831 was employed by the Windham County Mills, where he remained till 1851. The next six years he was a traveling salesman, and in 1857 he commenced the retail dry goods business in the Old Franklin Building in Willimantic. This was burned and he erected the present building and continued business till 1886, when he retired.

Albert Hartson was born in Mansfield, July 25th, 1820, and is the youngest of six children of Nathaniel and Sarah (Lincoln) Hartson. He removed to Windham in 1842, and married Mary J., daughter of Nathaniel Flint of Hampton. They had two

children: Elizabeth, wife of Hezekiah Utley of North Windham, and Lester M., who was born in Windham, November 10th, 1846, and married Delia C., daughter of Philander Fuller of Hampton. They have two children, Howard and Leslie. Mr. Hartson is engaged in the manufacture of specialties which are used by silk manufacturers. This industry he started at North Windham in 1868, and has customers in every part of the United States.

The Hatch Family.—It is recorded that the first settlers of this family were from England, and were three brothers, one of whom settled in New London, Conn., another at Boston, Mass., while the third one located in Nova Scotia. Samuel, who located at New London, was a baker by trade, and had the following family: Samuel, Elijah, Peter, Joshua, Joseph, Daniel, Stephen, John, and three daughters. Samuel, son of Samuel, was born September 26th, 1738, was a shoemaker, and married Naomi Phelps of Lebanon. They had ten children: Eleazer, Samuel, Asel, Joseph, Tryphena and Salena, twins, who died single; David, Jonathan, Naomi, who married Eleazer Fitch, and Elijah. Samuel died April 30th, 1815. Jonathan, son of Samuel second, was born January 6th, 1777, and married Betsey Payne. Their children were: Samuel Orville, Naomi Eliza (died aged 13), Chester Payne (resides in California), Jonathan, James Chandler (died in infancy), Elijah Phelps (lives in South Windam), James Chandler (lives in Avon, Conn.), Caroline Eliza (deceased, married James Babcock), and Nelson (died in California). Jonathan died October 5th, 1833. Samuel Orville, son of Jonathan, was born in Lebanon, Conn., June 2d, 1809, married Eunice T. Armstrong, and had the following children: E. Eliza, lives in South Windham; John O., born in Franklin, Conn., March 4th, 1840 (engaged in farming until age of 19, when he learned the machinist's trade, and was employed by Smith Winchester Company until his death, September 25th, 1885. He married Edna L. Gavitt of Willimantic, and left no children); Jonathan A., died aged 30 years; Mary A., died aged 18; Henry Chester, born in Franklin, Conn., December 2d, 1846, married Lucretia, daughter of Oliver Johnson of Franklin, Conn., has no children (is a machinist by trade, and has been in the employ of the Smith Winchester Company for twenty-three years); Hattie A., wife of William C. Backus of South Windham; Adella B., wife of Eugene Kinne of South Windham; Charles P., resides in Hartford, Conn.; Carrie L. and Lillie L., residents of South Windham. Samuel O. died June 13th, 1877.

James M. Hebard, son of Gurdon, was born in Scotland, Conn., September 19th, 1815. He was in early life a music teacher, but on arriving at manhood, engaged in the railroad business, and from 1853 to 1867 was purchasing agent for the New York and Hudson River railroad, but on account of ill health was obliged to give up his position. He married Delia Benton, daughter of Doctor Chester Hunt. He died December 25th, 1882.

Eli Hewitt, youngest son of Eli and Betsey (Williams) Hewitt, was born in Stonington, Conn., June 28th, 1815, came to Windham in his early manhood, and was engaged in farming. He married Mary, daughter of Gilbert Lamb, of Franklin, Conn., and had two children: Gilbert L., a wholesale grocer in Norwich, Conn., and Mary A. Eli Hewitt died September 17th, 1887.

Elisha Holmes married Sally Harris, and had a large family of children, as follows: Samuel; Sally, married Robert Bishop; Lois, married Jonathan Forsyth; Pauline, married Noah Wood; Charlotte and Marcia, both married Holcombs; Elisha H.; Griswold; Lucretia, married a Brown; Mary, and Alice, died unmarried. Elisha Harlow was born in Chesterfield, Conn., October 29th, 1799, and came to Windham in 1818. He was a cabinet maker by trade. He also was a farmer, had a grist and plaster mill, and was engaged in the dredging business. He married Lydia, daughter of Amos D. Allen, by whom he had seven children, of whom only two lived to maturity, viz., Lydia Allen and Elisha Harlow. He died October 21st, 1886. Elisha Harlow, son of Elisha Harlow, was born in Windham, July 13th, 1844, married Sarah W. Johnson, and has four children: Richard Johnson, Alice Lydia, Grace Sarah and Florence Jane.

The Lincoln Family.—Tradition says that the first settlers of this family came from Lincolnshire, England, and made settlement at Hingham and Taunton, Mass. A son of the Taunton settler named Samuel, came to Norwich and the supposition is that he afterward removed to Windham. He married June 2d, 1692, Elizabeth Jacobs, and had the following children: Samuel, Jacob, Mercy, Thomas, Jonah, Nathaniel (died in infancy) and Elizabeth. Samuel, son of Samuel, was born in Windham November 29th, 1693, married in 1723 Ruth Huntingdon, and their family were: Samuel, John, Nathaniel, Joseph, Eleazer and David. John, son of Samuel, was born July 28th, 1726, and married Rebecca ———, by whom he had two children, both of whom died young. He afterward married Annie

Stowell May 30th, 1758, and their family were: Annie, Eleazer, Jonah and Jerusha (twins), and Olive. John died June 7th, 1810. Jonah, son of John, born November 15th, 1760, married Lucy Webb, and their children were: James, John, Dan, Stowell, Ralph, Albert, Elisha, Burr, Lucy, married Benjamin Perry, and Marcia, married Luther Burnham. James, son of Jonah, born May 31st, 1784, married November 28th, 1811, and had a large family. Marvin, son of James, born in Windham, May 6th, 1813, married Asenath Brooks, and has two children: Herbert Selden, resides at Springfield, Mass., born October 28th, 1837, married Isabel Brooks, and has two children, Herbert Edward and Alice; and Julia Alice, married Bernard R. Green. Lorin, son of James, born December 3d, 1819, married Elizabeth Parker of Ashford, and has two children; Maria E., wife of John G. Bill of Willimantic, and M. Eugene, born February 23d, 1849, married Sarah, daughter of George W. Burnham, by whom he has one child, Louis B., born March 22d, 1876. His second wife is Edith M., daughter of Frank M. Lincoln, and they have one child, Frank M., born July 17th, 1884. Ralph, son of Jonah, was born in Windham, December 22d, 1792, and married Almira Trumbull of Mansfield. He had four children: Frank M., Jane W., widow of Luther Burnham, a resident of Willimantic; Charles Trumbull, resides at Putnam, Conn., and Delia, wife of David R. McCray, of Hampden, Mass. Ralph died June 24th, 1876. Frank M., son of Ralph, was born December 24th, 1816, and married Mary N., daughter of Rufus Burnham, and has one child, Edith M., wife of M. Eugene Lincoln. Stowell, son of Jonah, was born in Windham, October 20th, 1788, and married Maria Welch September 28th, 1815. Their children were: Emily Maria, died aged 8 years; Dwight Fitch, died aged 6 years; George, and Dwight Fitch, a resident of Hartford, Conn. Stowell died March 29th, 1870, and his wife died September 3d, 1887, aged 98 years, 3 months and 6 days. George, son of Stowell, born in Windham, November 27th, 1821, married Caroline Maria, daughter of Samuel A. Lincoln, and has two children, George Arthur and Stowell W., both residents of New York city. Nathaniel, son of Samuel, was born in Windham November 18th, 1728, and married December 21st, 1757, Agnes Austin. He died March 16th, 1834. His children were: Nathaniel, Owen died in New York state; Lora, married D. Spafford, and died in Scotland; Fanny, married John Robbins,

and died in New York state; Samuel Austin, died in Windham; Warner, died in Mansfield; Olive, died young; Henry, resides in Scotland; and Lucius, died in New York state. Nathaniel, son of Nathaniel, was born February 1st, 1771, and married June 10th, 1792, Anna Stowell. They had but one child, Sumner Lee. Nathaniel married for his second wife Huldah Warner, and died December 27th, 1864, being over 93 years of age. Sumner Lee, son of Nathaniel, born November 26th, 1820, married Cordelia Kimball of Scotland. He died May 18th, 1879. He had but one child, Edwin Sumner, who was born June 15th, 1849, and married Mary, daughter of Edmund A. Kendall of Ashford. They have one child, Florence Sumner.

The Page family is among the oldest families of Windham. William, who married Lucy Upton, had seven children: William, Tryphena, married Lucius Funk of Windham; James, Amy, married Elisha Jenner; Laura, married Whitman Porter, and Lucy, married Ezra Child. James, son of William, married Maria Backus and had six children: Henry, Charlotte, widow of Henry Smith, resides at Willimantic; Thomas, lives in Holyoke, Mass.; Freelove, died single; Edward and Abby, both lived in Willimantic. Henry, son of James, married Mary Stoddard, and has three children: Frank, lives in Putnam, Conn.; Charles, lives in Willimantic, and Mary, wife of William H. Wales of Willimantic.

John Perkins, a native of Newent, Gloucestershire, England, came from that country to Ipswich, Mass., in 1630. He died in 1654. He married Judith ———, and of a family of six children Jacob was his fifth child and youngest son. He was born in England in 1624, married Elizabeth ——— and died in Ipswich, January 29th, 1700. He was known as Sergeant Jacob Perkins, and he left a large family of children, of whom Joseph and Jabez, his eighth and ninth children, came to Norwich, Conn. Joseph, known as the deacon, was born at Ipswich, June 21st or 22d, 1674, and married May 22d, 1700, Martha Morgan. He died September 4th, 1726, and of his family of eleven children Matthew was the sixth child and third son. He was born at Norwich, August 31st, 1713, and married, in 1739, Hannah, a daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Fobes) Bishop. Of his family of thirteen children Samuel was the youngest child. He was born in Lisbon, Conn., September 13th, 1767, and married, February 24th, 1793, Nancy, daughter of Solomon and Ann (Dennison)

Huntingdon. He graduated from Yale College in 1785, having studied for the ministry, which he followed a short time and then commenced the practice of law in Windham, where he died September 22d, 1850. He had a family of four children: Ann Huntingdon, Samuel Huntingdon, Harriet, and Horatio Nelson, who died in infancy. Samuel Huntingdon was born in Windham, February 15th, 1797, and married for his first wife Charlotte, daughter of Jabez and Anna (Clarke) Elderkin, by whom he had one child that died in infancy. He married the second time Mary F., daughter of Nathaniel and Sarah Donnell. The children of this marriage were: William Donnell, who died young; Samuel Clarke; Robert Smith, died in infancy, and Charlotte Ann, single, who resides in Philadelphia. For his third wife he married Margaret, widow of Charles Dyott. He was a graduate of Yale College, class of 1817, and practiced law in Philadelphia during his life. He died in that city May 4th, 1874. He was a prominent Mason and Odd Fellow, having been grand sire of the latter order and grand master for the state of Pennsylvania in the Masonic order. Samuel Clarke was born in Philadelphia, November 24th, 1828, graduated from Yale College in 1848, and in 1888 received the degree of LL.D. from that college. He is engaged in the practice of law in his native city, and himself and father have been for seventy consecutive years elders in the First Presbyterian church of that city. He is president of the board of commissioners for the erection of public buildings of Philadelphia, one of the vice-presidents of the Union League Club, also president since 1880 of the University Club, is a prominent Mason, and has been grand master of Pennsylvania.

Elisha Benjamin Sharp, eldest son of Elder Elisha B. and Fannie (Gardiner) Sharp, was born in New London, Conn., February 7th, 1821. He removed to North Windham with his father at the age of two, afterward went to live in Scotland and came to South Windham in 1870, where he died June 13th, 1884. He was engaged in buying produce for the Providence markets. He married Jerusha A., daughter of John Morgan, and has had two children: Milo B., resides in Lebanon, Conn., and Myron P., died aged 30 years.

Of the Spencer family the first one to settle in Windham was Samuel, who came into the town about 1800. He had a large family of children, of whom Charles married Lucy Dewey,

and had a family of ten children, among whom was Freeman D., who was born in Windham, October 22d, 1820, and married Lucy D. Utley, of Hampton. They have two children: Anna, and Charles, born December 25th, 1854, married Elva M. Phillips, and has one child, Mabel.

Rowland Swift came from Wareham, Mass., to Lebanon, Conn., and died there February 13th, 1795, aged 73. He married Mary ———, removed to Mansfield, Conn., and had the following family: Abigail, married a Peabody; Rowland, settled in New York; Zephania, a resident of Windham, became a chief justice of the state and died in Ohio, in 1823; Mary, married Lathrop Davis, of Mansfield; William and Thankful. William, son of Rowland, was born in Lebanon, and died in 1835, aged 75. He married Abigail Clark, of Lebanon, and had two children: Abigail, who died unmarried, and Justin, born in Lebanon, November, 3d, 1793, and married Lucy, daughter of John and Sally Lathrop. They had four children: Abby and Sarah, died unmarried; William and Julia, resided in Windham. Justin died in September, 1884. He was a merchant, and was in the latter years of his life engaged in the manufacture of cotton goods at North Windham and Willimantic. William, son of Justin, was born in Windham, March 16th, 1823, married Harriet G. Byrne and has two children: William B., a lieutenant in the United States Navy, and Abby, wife of Charles R. Utley, of Willimantic.

Chester Tilden was the son of Ebenezer and was born in Lebanon, Conn. He came to Willimantic in 1827 and formed the First Baptist society, which was organized at his residence and of which he was the first pastor. He was by trade a stone mason and was foreman at the building of the first stone mill in Willimantic, which is the present spool shop of the Willimantic Linen Company. He removed to Andover, Conn., in 1831, where he remained two or three years. He then removed to New London, Conn., and was pastor of the First Baptist and Bethel society. He afterward preached at various places in Connecticut and Massachusetts, but finally returned to Willimantic, where he died at the age of 77 years. He married Nancy Maria Yeomans, of Columbia, Conn., and had six children: Austin B., died at the age of 21; Maria, died in childhood; Chester; Samuel D., resides in Brooklyn, N. Y.; Henry, died aged two years, and Augustus F., died aged nineteen years. Chester, son of

Chester, was born in Lebanon, Conn., January 25th, 1826, married Jane L. King, of Mansfield, and has had four children: Theresa E., wife of Herbert T. Congdon, of Willimantic; Augustus F., a resident of Willimantic, married Susie A. Randall and has two children, Fred C. and Belle; George C., died aged one year, and Nettie V., wife of William H. P. Swett, a resident of Willimantic. Mr. Tilden engaged in seafaring at the age of nineteen and has visited every quarter of the globe. His first voyage was in the whaler "United States," of Nantucket, in which voyage he was wrecked on the Fiji islands. He has been master of three different vessels, and has commanded both English and American craft. He abandoned seafaring life in 1852, and has since been engaged in business in Willimantic, being at present in the insurance and loan business.

John Tracy, only son of Zebediah Tracy, was born in Scotland, Conn., February 21st, 1812. He came to Willimantic in 1829 and engaged as clerk in the Windham Manufacturing Company's store, soon afterward became bookkeeper and finally a partner with Matthew Watson in the corporation, and was for over thirty years resident agent of the corporation. He married Delia, daughter of Philip and Sophia Barrows. Their children were: Oliva, died aged nineteen years; John Theodore, a resident of Fair Haven, Conn.; Delia, married James H. Campbell, and died aged thirty-two years; Julia Ida, wife of William Goldman Reed, of Boston, and Cora, died at the age of two years and seven months. John Tracy died May 8th, 1874.

The Wales family is one of the oldest families of Windham, and the first one of whom we have any record is Nathaniel, whose son Nathan married Rosamond Robinson and had the following family: Nathaniel, Peter, Nancy, who married Darius Hicks, of Pomfret; Fannie, married Elisha Hebard, of Hampton; Philena, married a Ripley; and Jerusha, married Thomas Grow, of Hampton. Peter, son of Nathan, was born in Windham in September, 1801, and died in February, 1883. He married Sally, daughter of Benjamin Perry, and had nine children, one of whom died in infancy. The others were: Susan, died aged 5; Mary, widow of R. W. Putnam, resides in Windham; Laura, widow of Gardiner Thurston, resides in Norwich, Conn.; Deborah, wife of Joel W. Webb, of Willimantic; Sarah, wife of Luther Barstow, of Willimantic; Henry N.; Elizabeth, wife of Joseph Belfield, of Pawtucket, R. I.; and Cleveland, lives in Franklin,

Conn. Henry N., son of Peter, born in Windham, August 10th, 1837, married Euphemia A., daughter of Warren Tanner, and has no children. He received only a common school education, and was engaged in farming till the age of twenty-one. From 1861 to 1867 he was engaged in mercantile business at South Windham and Willimantic, being a member of the firm of Webb & Wales. From 1867 to 1872 he was employed by George H. Norman, of Newport, R. I., in constructing water works at different points in New England. He was employed from 1872 to 1877 in erecting water works for the city of Manchester, N. H., and by the city of Boston on the Sudbury river conduit. At the commencement of 1877 he returned to Willimantic, and in the spring of 1879 was employed by Hyde Kingsley to manage his lumber and coal business, where he continued till 1883. He has been town clerk several times, and was appointed postmaster of Willimantic for four years in December, 1885. In 1882 he was chosen chairman of the committee for the purpose of ascertaining the best method of introducing water into the borough, and a commission of three was chosen in January, 1884, of which he was one, his term expiring in January, 1887. During this time the present water works were built.

HAMPTON.

William Bennett, born October 17th, 1807, in Hampton, was one of the five children of William and Anna (Fuller) Bennett, and grandson of Isaac, who was first representative to the general assembly from Hampton. He was the son of William, who came to Hampton from Ipswich, Mass., about 1738. William Bennett represented Hampton in the general assembly in 1841 and 1853, and held various town offices. He married November 15th, 1836, and had two children: Edward B., born in April, 1842, is a lawyer at Hartford; and George W., born February 9th, 1851, married Ellen Robinson April 10th, 1878, and has three children: Norman B., born October 5th, 1878; Anna C., born July 13th, 1880; and Howard R., born June 18th, 1883. George W. was educated at the schools of Hampton, Willimantic, and Exeter, N. H. He has held various town offices and is a farmer.

Abel Burdick, son of Rowland Burdick, was born in Voluntown, Conn., in 1836. He enlisted in 1862 in the 18th Connecticut volunteers, Company E, for three years, and served till the close of the war. Since then he has been engaged in farming.

He was in the battles of Winchester, Piedmont, Cedar Creek, and other important engagements. He married in 1861 Susan Phillips, and they have nine children: Charles, born 1863; Bertha, born 1865; Dwight, born 1867; Emma, born 1872; Mary, born 1874; Madeline, born 1877; James, born 1878; Frank, born 1885; and Grace, born 1887.

Dwight Burdick, son of Rowland Burdick, was born in Griswold, Conn., in 1837, and came to Hampton about 1855. He enlisted in August, 1861, in the 18th Connecticut volunteers, and served till the close of the war. He was in the battles of Winchester and Piedmont, and was wounded in the latter battle June 5th, 1864. June 5th, 1861, he was married to Delia E. Owen, of Hampton. They have two children: Carrie E., born 1866, and Mabel V., born in 1877.

Dwight A. Burnham, born in Hampton in 1836, is a son of Reverend Alfred Burnham, who was a descendant in the sixth generation of Deacon John Burnham, who was born in England and settled in Ipswich, Mass., in 1635. Dwight A. was married to Laurana Barber, of Richmond, R. I., in April, 1860. Their children are: Warren D., born August, 1866, and Anna N., born October 23d, 1870.

James A. Burnham, born in Hampton April 20th, 1832, is a son of Jesse Burnham, who was a great-grandson of Ebenezer Burnham, who came from Ipswich, Mass., to Hampton, in 1733-34. Ebenezer was a grandson of Deacon John Burnham, who came from England and settled in Ipswich, Mass., in 1635. James A. was married to Mary E. Starkweather May 8th, 1861. Their children are: Mary E., born May 14th, 1862; Lester H., born April 1st, 1865; Olive E., born May 9th, 1866; Frank J., born February, 1870; Fred. A., born December 23d, 1871; Charles E., born November 7th, 1874.

Lyndon T. Button, born in Hampton in 1817, is a son of Charles C. and Lucy (Thurston) Button, and grandson of Roswell Button. Charles C. served in the war of 1812. Lyndon T. Button has been engaged in the hotel and mercantile business, and in later years in farming. He represented the town in the legislature of 1860, and was appointed county commissioner of Windham county in 1866 for three years, and has held various town offices. In November, 1838, he was married to Sarah A. Curtiss. Their children are: Mary G., married William H. Burnham, and Worthington B., born in 1853.

Henry Clapp was born in Hampton in 1847. He was a son of David and Temperance (White) Clapp. David Clapp came from Norton, Mass., to Hampton in 1833, and was a son of Jonathan Clapp. Henry Clapp has been engaged in school teaching and farming, has been selectman and held other town offices, and is a deacon in the church. He was married to Sarah E. Kinney, of Plainfield, in 1875, and has one daughter, Nellie F., born in 1880.

Reuben Elliott, son of Thomas, whose ancestors were among the first settlers in the county, was born in Thompson, in 1826, and came to Hampton in 1850. Mr. Elliott is a successful farmer. He was married March 5th, 1849, to Adeline Covell, of Killingly, and has two children; Josephine, born in 1854, and Everett A., who was born in 1862, and is a school teacher.

George W. Fuller, born in Hampton in 1836, is a son of James Fuller and grandson of Benjamin Fuller. He taught school in early life and traveled extensively through the Southern states. He married, in 1870, Eunice Hammond, a descendant of John Alden, who was the first to leap from the "Mayflower" upon Plymouth Rock in 1620. They have four sons and four daughters.

J. Henry Fuller, born in Ashford, February 23d, 1827, is a son of Elisha and Irene (Francis) Fuller, and grandson of Benjamin Fuller. The Fuller family were among the first settlers of Hampton. Mr. Fuller learned the trade of blacksmith, which has been his principal business. He was married November 23d, 1851, to Mary, daughter of Moses Adams, of Canterbury, and descended from the first settlers of Massachusetts.

Benjamin C. Grant, son of Asa and grandson of Benjamin Grant, was born in Wrentham, Mass., in 1822, and came to Pomfret in 1832. In early life he was a farmer and later a merchant, which has been his chief business. He was appointed postmaster at Pomfret Landing in 1852, which office he held seven years. He is now postmaster at Clark's Corner. He was married in 1844 to Mary A. Fuller and second to Julia Avery, in 1877. He has three children: George L., born August 6th, 1857; Charles, born in 1855, and Fred B., born in 1878.

Alfred Hammond was born in Hampton in 1809. He was a son of Uriel and Sally (Holt) Hammond. Uriel was a soldier in the war of 1812, and was a son of Josiah, who came to Hampton from Vermont. Alfred Hammond was engaged in school teach-

ing and farming, represented the town in the legislature in 1865, held various town offices, was for many years one of the foremost men of Hampton and died July 1st, 1876. He was married April 28th, 1841, and his children were: John, born 1843, enlisted in 26th Connecticut volunteers, served at siege of Port Hudson, died July, 1888; Cynthia Ann, born November 24th, 1845; Eunice, born October 25th, 1848, married George Fuller, and Irving W., born 1854, married Mary E. Rawson in 1888.

George M. Holt, born in Hampton January 2d, 1829, is a son of James Holt and a descendant in the seventh generation from Nicholas Holt, who came from Southampton, England, to Boston in 1635. He represented Hampton in the general assembly in 1877, has been selectman several years, and held minor town offices. He was married in 1854 to Abby, daughter of Alexander Dorrance, a descendant of Reverend Samuel Dorrance, who graduated at the University of Glasgow in 1709, and was first pastor of the first church in Voluntown, Conn. Their children are: Helen C., born August 10th, 1855, and Mary L., born April 18th, 1859.

Sylvester G. Holt, brother of George M., was born at Hampton, November 1st, 1812, and was one of eight children. He has held various town offices. He was married to Elizabeth Curtiss February 24th, 1840.

Allen Jewett was born in Hampton in 1839. He is a son of Ebenezer Jewett, born 1799, who married Maria Jennings in 1824, and grandson of Ebenezer, born in 1748. He learned the trade of carpenter but is also engaged in farming. He was postmaster at Clark's Corner two years, and served as member of the board of education. He was married to Fannie Wheeler, of Stonington, Conn., December 18th, 1866, and has two children: Wallace, born June 26th, 1870, and Elmer, born January 11th, 1873.

Abijah Perkins was born in Lisbon (now Sprague), New London county, in 1833, and came to Hampton about 1835. He is a son of Milton Perkins and grandson of Abijah Perkins. His mother was Josephine Tibbetts, who married Milton Perkins in 1832 and had two children: Abijah, and Milton, who lives at Ann Arbor, Mich. Mr. Perkins is a farmer. He married E. Louise Cowles, of East Hartford, in 1859, and they have two sons: George M., born 1860, and Fred C., born 1868.

Charles Spalding, born in Hampton in 1824, is a son of Joseph and Olive (Farnham) Spalding, whose children were: Olive, Chloe, Joseph and Charles. Charles Spalding is a farmer and unmarried.

George M. Thompson, born in Hampton, April 27th, 1827, is a son of Moses Thompson, Jr., whose ancestry came to this country with Roger Williams. In early life he followed farming. At twenty-four years of age he adopted the life of a seaman, and in 1854 he was commissioned chief engineer in ocean steam service and served in that capacity for several years. In later years he returned to farming. He married Anna E. Tipton and their children were: Charles W., Georgianna, George M., Catharine A., Dora, Gertrude, and Eleazar B.

Roger S. Williams was born in Canterbury May 27th, 1819, and is a son of Benjamin Williams, who married Betsey Smith, and is supposed to be descended from one of the Pilgrim Fathers who came from England in the "Mayflower." Mr. Williams came to Hampton in 1839. In early life he learned the trade and followed the business of blacksmithing and in later years has been farming. He represented Hampton in the legislature of 1857, was selectman for seventeen years, and has held many other town offices. He married Amelia Witter, daughter of Asa Witter in 1841. She died in 1882. Their children are: Adelaide, born 1842; Anna, born 1845, married in 1866 George Hoit, who died in 1873.

SCOTLAND.

S. N. Ashley, born March 18th, 1827, in Chaplin, Conn., is a son of Luther and Eliza (Humphrey) Ashley, and grandson of Jonathan and Lydia Humphrey. In 1860 he married Jane Bass. Their children are: Luther, born October 22d, 1865, and Eliza, born Janury 7th, 1868. Mr. Ashley served in the 26th Connecticut Infantry for about one year in the rebellion and saw much hard service.

Egbert Bass, born January 29th, 1828, is a son of John and Elizabeth (Smith) Bass, and grandson of Ebenezer and Ruth (Waldo) Bass. He has been selectman, constable and collector, and has held other town offices. He was married in 1855, and has children: W. C., born 1856; J. L., December 25th, 1858; Edgar E., August 30th, 1861; Gertrude M., November 4th, 1863; Ellen L., January 5th, 1867; Chauncey M., September

4th, 1869; Lucy E., February 15th, 1872, and Hattie M., December 17th, 1874.

W. C. Bass was born in Scotland in 1827, and is a son of Nathan Bass. He was educated in the common schools, and is a farmer. He was a member of the assembly in 1883, and has held various town offices. He married in 1858 Elmira Smith, of Scotland. He is a member of the Congregational church and a republican.

Dwight Cary, born in the town of Scotland in 1817, is a son of Sandford and a grandson of James Cary. In 1868 he was elected as representative and has held many minor offices in the town. He married Susan Bass, of Scotland, who has borne him nine children, six of whom are living. Mr. Cary is a member of the Congregational church.

F. W. Cunningham, born May 23d, 1852, in Scotland, is a son of William Cunningham and Almantha Bingham, and grandson of John C. Cunningham and Jemima Story. His paternal grandparents were Gamaliel Bingham and Betsey Robinson. Mr. Cunningham is a merchant miller. He was married March 4th, 1877, to Annie Beckwith, and has two children, Annie and Joseph.

John P. Gager was born in Scotland May 20th, 1819. His father was J. P. Gager and his mother Chloe Baker. His grandfather was Jason Gager and his great-grandfather John G. Gager. Mr. Gager has represented his town in the state legislature. He married Lucy Ann Brumley and their children are: Nancy B., Ellen M., Arthur F., Susie L. and Flora. He is a member of the Universalist church.

John D. Moffitt, born September 25th, 1849, is a son of Lyman D. Moffitt and Alice Whipple. He is engaged in manufacturing, milling and farming. He was married June 19th, 1873, and has four children.

A. W. Parkhurst was born July 27th, 1824, in Scotland, Conn. His father was Anthony S., and his grandfather Elias Parkhurst. Mr. Parkhurst has held many town offices, and was representative in 1881. He married Nancy C. Palmer, December 2d, 1850. Their children are: Lunett, born October 1st, 1851; Estella N., March 12th, 1853, and Eva T., September 24th, 1855. Mr. Parkhurst and his wife are members of the Congregational church.

CHAPLIN.

Jirah L. Backus was born in Chaplin in 1828. He was educated at Chaplin, represented the town of Chaplin in the legislature in 1872, and has held various town offices. He was married in 1852 to Susan Dodge of Eastford. Their children are: Clinton, born in 1853, graduated at Amherst College in 1883, married Carrie Haskin, and is a teacher at St. Paul; Charles, born in 1856, graduated at Eastman's Business College, is a banker at Hampshire, Ill., married in 1884 Emma L. Sisley; Annie, born in 1858, married Robert W. Stephenson of Hampshire, Ill.; Nellie, born in 1870.

Merrick Barton, born in Chaplin, September 14th, 1830, is a son of Ebenezer Barton, and grandson of Elkanah Barton, who came to Mansfield (now Chaplin) in 1796. Merrick Barton was one of five children. He was educated at the schools of Chaplin. He represented the town in the legislature of 1883, and has held various town offices. He married, December 6th, 1871, Asenath U. Griggs of Chaplin, daughter of Daniel Griggs, and has three children; Charles M., born April 19th, 1878; Eda G., born July 10th, 1880, and Horace A., born December 3d, 1872.

John H. Holt, son of John Holt, was born in 1818 in Hampton, Conn. He married Eliza M. Evans of New York, July 26th, 1840. Their children are: Charles E., born in 1842, enlisted in 26th Connecticut volunteers for nine months, was in the seige of Port Hudson, enlisted second time in August, 1864, in heavy artillery, and served till the close of the war; Delia E.; Marcus B., born February 1st, 1845, enlisted December 13th, 1861, in the 11th Connecticut volunteers, served in Burnside's expedition, was in battles of Roanoke island and Antietam, also other engagements, died of sickness at Washington, December 26th, 1862; and John H., born October 27th, 1846.

F. C. Lummis is a son of John Lummis, who was born February 13th, 1819, married Rowena Chapman in 1851, enlisted in Company D, 18th Connecticut volunteers, was in the battles of Newmarket and Winchester, was taken prisoner at Winchester, and died at Andersonville Prison in November, 1864. He was a grandson of John Lummis, an ensign in the French and Indian war. John Lummis had three children: Frank C., born in 1852; George E., born October 18th, 1853, and Delia, born June 6th, 1855.

Porter B. Peck was born July 16th, 1816, in Mansfield, and died June 28th, 1884. He was a farmer and school teacher. He was judge of probate one term, represented the town in the legislature in 1857, was state senator in 1859, and held many minor offices. He married Emeline, daughter of Daniel Burnham of Hampton. Their children were; Cornelia M., born in 1841, married Mason Bates; Sarah E., born in 1843, married Edward Burnham; Julia M., born in 1847.

Pearl L. Peck, born in Mansfield, April 4th, 1818, is a son of Reuben Peck and Laura Lyon, and grandson of Benjamin Peck. He represented the town in the legislature in 1850, was justice of the peace for 25 years, and has held many minor town offices. He married Fannie A. Brown of Mansfield, who died March 2d, 1887. Their children were: Dwight E., born December, 1841, enlisted 21st Connecticut volunteers, Company D, was in Burnside's expedition, was in battle at Falmouth, and died at Falmouth, Va., January 12th, 1863; Lucy E., born in 1841, married D. C. Crumb; Sarah L., born in 1843; Delia, born in 1846, married Alfred Y. Hebard; and Charles E., born in 1847, married Clara Russ in 1877, and has two children, Alfred H., born in 1878, and Susie E., born in 1882.

George A. Ross, born in 1816, is a son of John S., and grandson of Ebenezer Ross, who was born in Pomfret, near the wolf den, was an intimate friend of General Putnam, and a lieutenant in the revolutionary war. George Ross' mother was Lucy Lanphear, whose father was a soldier in the revolutionary war. Mr. Ross has been a successful farmer. He married for his first wife Mary A. Lawton. She died in 1849, leaving one son, Charles E. Ross, born in 1849. He married for his second wife Lavina Ide, in 1859.

Thomas T. Upton, born in Chaplin in 1816, is a son of Elisha Upton, who married Charlotte Apley. He was educated at the schools of Chaplin, and has been a farmer most of his life. Mr. Upton has been twice married, and has five children: Horace, Edwin, George, Frank and Harriet.

John K. Utley, born in 1815, was one of nine children, of whom three now live in Chaplin: John K., Lucius, born 1809, and Jane M., born 1826, married H. C. Storrs, and has one son. His father was James Utley, born in Hampton in 1781, came to Mansfield (now Chaplin) in 1815, and married Phebe, daughter of Captain John Clark, in 1808. John K. Utley married in 1843 Caro-

line Burnham, of Chaplin. She died in 1879. Lucius C. married Sarah Morey in 1830, and she died in 1864.

Edwin F. Weeks was born in Ashford, January 11th, 1818. He enlisted June 22d, 1862, in Company K, 14th Connecticut volunteers, was in the battle of Antietam, and received serious injury. He married Sarah A. Corey, and they have four children: Nellie L., Hattie R., Wallace G. and Andrew C.

PLAINFIELD.

Sessions L. Adams, born in 1854 in Canterbury, is a son of Jabez and Jane (Lester) Adams. He came to Plainfield to live with his uncle, "Major" Lester. He was educated at Wauregan district school, then at Danielsonville high school about two years and a half, under L. T. Brown, then at North Glastenbury, Conn., three years. He was selectman in 1882, and in June, 1885, he was appointed to the offices of town clerk and treasurer, to fill a vacancy, and in October following was elected to the same offices, which he has filled since that time. He was elected in 1888 as representative in the general assembly. "Major" Lester died in 1882, and since that time Mr. Adams has had charge of the farm, living with Mrs. Lester. He is a republican, and a member of the A. O. U. W., No. 22.

John H. Arthur, son of Michael Arthur, was born in 1862, in Woodstock. He was married in 1888 to Mary A., daughter of James S. Anderson, who lived in Plainfield about thirty years prior to his death, which occurred in February, 1887. He had two daughters, Mary A., now Mrs. John H. Arthur, and Martha J. Mr. Arthur is a democrat.

Edward E. Ashley, born in 1848, is a son of Gilbert and grandson of Luther Ashley. His mother was Frances E., daughter of Alfred A. Drown. Mr. Ashley came to Plainfield in 1876, and since 1878 has been clerk for J. P. Kingsley & Sons, and also express agent at Plainfield Junction. He was married in 1872 to Ellen Wood. She died in June, 1882, leaving two children, Susie F. and Alfred D. He was married again in 1884 to Frances Starkweather. He is a republican.

Isaac J. Baldwin is a son of Isaac, grandson of Rufus and great-grandson of Isaac, Sr., whose father, John, was a son of Benjamin Baldwin, who came to Canterbury in or about 1705. He was a son of Henry Baldwin. Mr. Baldwin has spent the most of his time for the past twenty years in the West. He was married in

1863 to Mary A., daughter of Roswell Ensworth. She died in 1868. He is a republican.

Charles E. Barber, born in 1848 in Exeter, is a son of George, grandson of Ellery, and great-grandson of Reynolds Barber. Mr. Barber is a tinsmith by trade, was clerk and tinsmith in the Central Hardware store about twelve years prior to 1880, and at that time bought the business of Mr. Dean. He has since enlarged the building, putting a hall on the second floor. He now keeps a full line of hardware and stoves. He has held some of the town offices as a republican. He is a member of Moosup Lodge, No. 113, F. and A. M., and a member of Protection Lodge, No. 19, I. O. of O. F.

Lucius Battey was born in 1836 in Burrillville, R. I. He is a son of Levi, grandson of John and great-grandson of Benjamin Battey. His mother was Roxanna, daughter of Peleg Kelley. Mr. Battey lived in Rhode Island until he was sixteen years old. From there he went to Massachusetts, and in 1858 came to Moosup. He was a clerk for E. E. Hill for a time, then went into partnership with Mr. Hill in the store. In 1872 he sold out his interest to Mason W. Hale. In the same year he built the building here which he used as a store and residence from 1876 to 1886. In 1886 he sold the store business to E. E. Salisbury. He still owns the building and uses the second story as a residence. He was married in 1860 to Matilda Daggett, daughter of Rufus Daggett. They have two children—Elmer E., and Ida, who died in 1883, aged 13 years. Mr. Battey was in a store at Central Village four years from 1872 to 1876. He is a republican, has been selectman one year, and was postmaster at Moosup about ten years.

Emily Bennett was born in August, 1811, in Hanover, Conn. She is a daughter of Edward Morgan, and granddaughter of William Morgan. She was married in August, 1831, to Stephen Bennett. They had eight children: Stephen N., David C. (deceased), Olive E. (now Mrs. D. Herrick), and five others, deceased, whose names were: George C., Edwin D., Joseph L., Loren W. and Benjamin. Mrs. Bennett's husband was born in 1793, and died in June, 1878. He was in the war of 1812. His wife now draws a pension.

Stephen N. Bennett was born in 1832 in Plainfield. He is a son of Stephen, Jr., and grandson of Stephen, whose father John came from England, settled in Griswold, Conn., and

later went to Wilkesbarre, Pa. He owned a large part of the land where the city of Wilkesbarre now stands. Stephen was the youngest son of John. He served seven years in the war of the revolution. Stephen, Jr., was in the war of 1812, about eight months. Stephen N. now owns the farms of 250 acres where his father and grandfather lived. He has a trout pond of one acre, and is adding another acre. He has been justice of the peace two years and selectman three terms. He was in California the most of the time from 1852 to 1861. He is one of the directors of the Windham County National Bank. He built his trout pond in the spring of 1884, and the house where he now lives in 1885.

Caleb Bishop, born in 1837, in Lisbon, is a son of Elias, grandson of Caleb, and great-grandson of Reuben and Hannah Bishop. His mother was Lydia, daughter of Lee Hyde. Mr. Bishop is a farmer. He came to Plainfield from Lisbon in 1864, and bought what was originally the Woodward homestead in the south part of the town. He served in the war of the rebellion about one year in Company F., 26th Connecticut volunteers. He was married in 1864 to Mary E., daughter of Nelson Tyler. They have had four children: Mary J., who died aged 8 years, Nellie C., Fannie L., and William T. He has been selectman five years as a republican. He is a member of Jewett City church.

Andrew J. Bitgood was born in 1845 in Voluntown, Conn., son of Elisha Bitgood. He taught school some when a young man. He was brought up a farmer and in 1876 he began the lumber business. In 1878 he bought a portable saw mill, and does some custom work, but mostly manufacturing lumber for himself for market. He represented the town of Voluntown in the legislature in 1877-8, and held some of the town offices there. He was married in 1875 to Victoria, daughter of Benjamin M. Burdick. They have one daughter, Grace E. Mr. Bitgood is a democrat.

George R. Bliven, born in 1845, in Windham, Conn., is a son of John H., and grandson of Pardon Bliven. His mother was Emily A., daughter of Thomas Bingham. Mr. Bliven served in the war of the rebellion in Company H, 18th Connecticut volunteers, from June, 1862, to July, 1865. In 1865 he began to learn the blacksmith trade, and came to Central Village in 1876, where he has worked at his trade since that time. In 1884 he

built a residence on a farm of 65 acres which he bought in 1881. He was married in 1869 to Lydia M., daughter of Stanton Baldwin. They had two children: Mabel, and S. Ray, both deceased. They have an adopted son, Bernard D. Bliven. Mr. Bliven is a republican, a member of Moosup Lodge, No. 113, F. & A. M., and of Kilburn Post, No. 77, G. A. R.

Benjamin R. Briggs was born in 1850, in Scituate, R. I. He is a son of Bradford T., whose father, James, was a son of Joseph Briggs, who was a revolutionary soldier. His mother is Celia (Ramsdale) Briggs. Mr. Briggs worked about six years at the harness maker's trade in Rhode Island, and in April, 1880, came to Plainfield to take charge of the town farm, which he did for two years. He built a residence in Plainfield village in 1884, and worked at his trade until 1888, when he bought a farm of 250 acres between Plainfield and Central Village, and has since been engaged in farming. He was married in 1871 to Nellie E., daughter of John R. and Hattie (Bitgood) Briggs. They have two children: Walter B. and Bertha R. He is a member of Ionic Lodge, No. 28, F. and A. M., of Rhode Island.

George W. Brown was born in 1830, in Rhode Island. He was a son of James and Abbie (Wilcox) Brown. He was a ship carpenter for several years prior to 1860, then was a farmer in Hopkinton, R. I., until 1874, when he bought the farm where his widow now lives, of 130 acres. He was married in 1859 to Martha J., daughter of Theophilus R. Bromley. Her mother was Mary Spalding, a daughter of Asa Spalding. They have had seven children: Everett E., who is married and lives in Virginia; Henry B., Lucy J., who died aged six years; Wendell P., Horace G., Mary A., and Fannie E. Mr. Brown was a member of Hopkinton Seventh Day Baptist church and a republican.

Welcome H. Browning was born in 1834, in Griswold, Conn. His father, Ephraim, was a son of Hazard, and grandson of Ephraim Browning. His mother was Maria, daughter of Shepard Brown. Mr. Browning removed with his father from Griswold to Canterbury in 1837, and in 1857 they came to Plainfield, and bought a farm of 137 acres, and later they bought enough more to make 350 acres. His father died in 1876, aged 71 years, and since that time he has carried on the farming alone. He was married in 1877 to Ellen, daughter of Gilbert C. Robbins. He is a democrat and a member of the Packerville Baptist church.

Reverend Lucian Burleigh was born in Plainfield, in 1817. His father, Rinaldo, was a son of John and grandson of John Burleigh. He was educated at Plainfield Academy and Connecticut Literary Institution. He was ordained as an Evangelist, and was a teacher, preacher and temperance lecturer. His father, Rinaldo, was a graduate of Yale College, and was a teacher for many years. He was deacon of the Congregational church of Plainfield about forty-five years. He died in 1862, aged 88 years. Lucian Burleigh was married in 1843 to Elizabeth M., daughter of Stephen and Abigail Child. They had six children: Gertrude E., Harriet F., Caroline E., Lucian R., William B. and John C., all living but Caroline E. Mr. Burleigh died in 1884.

Joseph Butcher was born in England December 13th, 1803. He came to this country and married Polly, daughter of Aaron Wheeler. He was a farmer, excepting during a few years when he was in California. He was a member of Plainfield Union Baptist church. He died in 1879. His nephew, Joseph Butcher, was married in 1864 to Lydia M., daughter of George C. and Eliza M. (Hazard) Sheldon. Eliza M. was daughter of Thomas C. and Lydia Walker Hazard. George C. Sheldon was a son of Potter Sheldon. Lydia M. had one daughter by her marriage with Mr. Butcher—G. Annie. She married John J. Bennett in 1884.

Charles A. Byles, son of Josiah Byles, M. D., was born in 1842 in Clinton, Conn. Mr. Byles came to Plainfield about thirty-two years ago, and for the past twenty years has lived with his aunt, Mrs. Charles Hinckley. Charles Hinckley was the son of Vincent Hinckley. Charles built the house where Mr. Byles lives in 1857. He was married in 1839 to Lucy R. Avery. He died in 1875, aged 59 years. He was in the legislature one term and filled several of the town offices. He was a republican, a member of the Central Congregational church, and was deacon for several years. Mr. Byles was married in 1882 to Alice G., daughter of Henry C. Torrey. They have two sons—Frank A. and Charles H. He is a member of the Central Congregational church, and has been deacon of the same for four years. He is a republican.

Gurdon Cady, born in 1822 in Brooklyn, Conn., is a son of Elisha and grandson of Eliakim Cady. Mr. Cady is a farmer and has lived at this place since 1843. He has been selectman two terms and represented the town in the legislature in 1876.

He was married to Mary E., daughter of Charles and Fannie Whiting. They had one adopted daughter, Frances C., who died aged thirteen years. The wife died in December, 1887. Mr. Cady is a democrat, a member of Moosup Lodge, No. 113, F. & A. M., and a member of Brooklyn Grange, No. 43, P. of H.

Fitch A. Carey was born in 1838 in Canterbury. He is a son of James B. Carey and grandson of James, whose father was one of the first settlers of Scotland, Conn. His mother was Mary, daughter of Fitch Adams. Mr. Carey was clerk in a store here for the Central Manufacturing Company about nine years prior to 1861. He went to Mexico and staid one year. From 1862 to 1875 he was a farmer in Canterbury. He represented the town in the legislature in 1868, and was one of the selectmen several years. In 1875 he removed to Plainfield, and since that time has been a small farmer and trader. In October, 1885, he was appointed postmaster at Central Village and fitted up a small store, where he keeps a variety stock. He was married in 1868 to Jennie, daughter of Archibald Fry. She died in 1879, leaving one daughter, Jennie F. He was married in 1883 to Eliza Walker. He is a democrat.

Lemuel W. Cleveland, born in 1841, is a son of Luther Cleveland, who was born in 1807 and died in 1853. His mother is Lydia C., daughter of Lemuel Woodward. Mr. Cleveland and his mother built the house where they now live in 1869. Mr. Cleveland is a republican. His father was a whig in his day. Luther Cleveland was married in 1834 to Lydia C. Woodward. They had three children: Frances (Mrs. J. D. Brown, of Hartford), born 1837, has two daughters; Lemuel W. and Julia W. (twins), born 1841.

George S. Collins, born in 1861 in Canterbury, is a son of Charles W. and Mary M. Collins. His grandfather was Thomas Collins. Mr. Collins came to Plainfield in 1871, and has since been employed in the Kennedy City Mills the most of the time. He has been superintendent since 1883. He was married in 1885 to Catharine, daughter of John and Annie Murdock. He is a democrat.

Henry G. Colvin, born in 1835 in Warwick, R. I., is a son of Henry and grandson of George Colvin. His mother is Mary A., daughter of Joseph Bennett. His father came from Rhode Island to Plainfield in 1835, and lived here until his death, which occurred in 1869. Mr. Colvin is a thrifty farmer, and has lived

at his present residence since 1864. He has a basement barn 40 by 97 feet. He was married in 1864 to Martha N. Robinson. She died in 1876, and he was married in 1879 to Mrs. Mary Burgess, sister of his first wife. He is a democrat.

James Craig, son of John Craig, was born in 1830 in Scotland. He is a machinist. He worked at his trade in the old country from 1843 to 1871, when he came to America, settling in Wauregan, where he has worked for the Wauregan Mills since that time. He was married in 1850 and has seven children: Helen, Annie, John, Thomas, Elizabeth, Jessie and Agnes. He is a republican, a member of Wauregan Congregational church, and a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M.

Martha G. Crandall was born in 1820. She is a daughter of Jeremiah, son of Aaron Starkweather. Her mother was Bridget Kinney. Martha G. was married in 1865 to Reverend Phineas Crandall, who was born in 1793. He was a Methodist preacher for about fifty years, and a member of the New England Conference. In 1866 he bought and took possession of the place where Mrs. Crandall now lives. He died November 5th, 1878. Mr. Crandall was in the war of 1812. He had one son, John, by a former marriage.

Henry Daggett, born in 1830 in Providence county, R. I., is a son of Rufus and grandson of Daniel Daggett. His mother is Thankful (Bowen) Daggett. Mr. Daggett was a mill operative about forty-four years, and ran a cotton dresser for thirty-five years. Since 1886 he has been a farmer. He was married in 1853 to Ruth Battey, a sister of Lucius Battey, mentioned above. They have one son living, Frank W. They lost a son and daughter, John E. and Lelia F. He is a member of the Moosup Methodist Episcopal church, and a member of Moosup Lodge, No. 113, F. & A. M.

George Davis, born in 1828 in Plainfield, is a son of Obed and grandson of David Davis. His mother was Robey, daughter of John Brown. Mr. Davis is a farmer. He sold milk in Wauregan about twenty-two years. He was married in 1856 to Emily, daughter of Herbert W. Parkis, son of Elias, son of Isaac Parkis. Their five children are: Ella M., George Herbert, Sarah E., Ida E. and Albert I., who died aged three years. George Herbert was married in 1885, to Grace, daughter of Perry G. Tripp.

George B. Dawley was born in 1856 in Griswold, Conn. His father George, was a son of Isaac, and grandson of Michael

Dawley. Mr. Dawley is a farmer and owns and occupies the farm where his father lived from 1856 until 1882. He died in 1886, and since that time the son has owned the farm. He has been selectman since 1887 as a democrat. He was married in 1877 to Annie, daughter of John Briggs. They have three children—Frank A., George A. and Ida V.

William Dawley was born in 1817 in Exeter, R. I. He is a son of William, and grandson of Nathan, whose father John Dawley came from Ireland to what was called the "Pettaquamscutt Purchase" in Washington county, R. I., and later to what is now Exeter, R. I. Mr. Dawley is a farmer. He came from Rhode Island to the place where he now lives in 1856. He has a four acre cranberry meadow. He has been selectman three terms, and has held other town offices. He was married in 1842 to Mary A., daughter of Michael Dawley, son of Oliver, son of Michael, son of John, same as above. They have one son, John W., who was married in 1885 to Jennie A., daughter of Joshua S. Kennedy, and has one son, William K. Dawley.

John R. Dean was born in 1805 and died in 1870. He was a son of Christopher, whose father James, was a son of John Dean, who owned the farm which is still in the Dean family. John R. was married in 1829 to Lucy L. Carpenter. They had two sons, James C. and John, who now live on the homestead. James C. was born in 1830, and was married in 1866 to Catharine E. Kinne. She died in 1875, leaving one daughter. Mr. Dean is a farmer. He is a member of Moosup Lodge, No. 113, F. & A. M. John Dean was born in 1832, and was married in 1863 to Julia, daughter of George Bliven. They have one son, George C. He is a farmer and owns the homestead.

Joseph A. Deane was born in 1816 in Taunton, Mass. He is a son of Abijah, whose father Nathaniel, was a son of Ebenezer, a son of John, whose father John, was a son of John Dean, who came to this country in 1637 from England. His mother Mary, was a daughter of Joseph Deane. Mr. Deane came to Plainfield in 1835 and has resided here since that time. He has been engaged in railroad work for about forty years, mostly bridge building. Since 1876 he has been an insurance agent, representing the Windham County Mutual and others. He was married in 1838 to Ann M. Tyler. She died leaving four children: Annie T., Albert, Mary E., and Edward. He was married again to Catharine Hall, who died in 1887. Mr.

Deane has been constable, justice, and notary public. He is a republican.

George M. Denison was born in 1820 and married Lucinda Grant. They have one son and one daughter. George M. Denison has been a top roller coverer for several years. His son Albert G. has worked at that business for several years with his father. In 1888 they opened a furniture and undertaking establishment at Moosup, under the firm name of George M. Denison & Son. Albert G. was married in 1887, to Clara H., daughter of Albert Tillinghast. The family are members of of Plainfield Union Baptist church.

Olney Dodge, born in 1824, in Rhode Island, is a son of Barney Dodge. His mother is Mary, daughter of Joab and Mary Mann. Mr. Dodge came to Plainfield in 1876 and bought a small farm a little south of Plainfield street, and since that time has been a farmer. He was in California from 1849 to 1852. He was married in July, 1854, to Susan H., daughter of William and Martha (Gallup) Shepard. William was a son of Simon and Elizabeth (Moore) Shepard. Mr. and Mrs. Dodge have four children: Susan E. (Mrs. D. E. Earle), Mary A. (Mrs. Frank H. Tillinghast), John G. and Charles O. Mr. Dodge is a republican.

James Doyle, son of Michael Doyle, was born in 1849 in Ireland and came to this country in 1867. He bought the farm of 150 acres where he now lives in 1878. He was married in 1867 to Mary, daughter of Jeremiah Downing. They have seven children: John T., James, Mary, Kate, Rosie, Michael, and Julia A. He is a democrat and a member of the Moosup Cathlic church.

Nancy Dunlap is a daughter of John Medbury, and granddaughter of Edward Medbury. She was married in 1839 to George Dunlap, who was born in 1815, and died in 1873. He was station agent at Moosup about thirty years, and town clerk of Plainfield several years. They had one daughter, Sarah J. (Mrs. Andrew Potter). Mr. Dunlap was a democrat.

John C. Edmonds, born in 1812, in Griswold, Conn., is a son of Samuel S., and grandson of Andrew Edmonds. His mother was Betsey, daughter of John Cogswell. He was educated in the district and select schools of Griswold, and has taught school about twenty winters. He came to this town in 1861, and bought the place where he now lives. He has been selectman four

years. He was married in March, 1844, to Eliza, daughter of William Kinne. They have two adopted sons, David C. Kinne and Edwin Edmonds. Mr. Edmonds is a republican. He and his wife are members of the First Congregational church of Canterbury.

Roswell Ensworth was born in 1817 in Plainfield. His father Roswell, was a son of Jesse, and grandson of William, whose father Joseph, was the son of Tixhall Ensworth. His mother was Mary, daughter of Deacon David Knight. Mr. Ensworth was educated in district schools and in the Plainfield Academy. He has taught school about thirty years. Since March, 1876, he has been bookkeeper and secretary for the Robinson Fowler Foundry Company. He has been on the school board several years, and has held other town offices. He was a member of the legislature one term, 1880–81. He was married in 1844 to Mary A., daughter of Prentice Lewis. They had one daughter, Mary A. (Mrs. I. J. Baldwin), who died in 1869, and one son, George W., who died aged four years. Mr. Ensworth is a member and trustee of the First Congregational church of Plainfield, a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M., and Providence Chapter, No. 1. He is a republican.

Reverend Silenus H. Fellows was born in 1827 in Greene county, N. Y., and is a son of Reverend Linus H. Fellows of Connecticut. He was educated at Plainfield Academy, and taught school when a young man. He was licensed to preach in 1858, and in April, 1859, was ordained as a preacher. He has been pastor of the Congregational church of Wauregan since 1859. He was married in 1853 to Sylvia D. Newell. They have two daughters: Ida A., who is now Mrs. H. F. Lewis of Chicago, Ill., and Carrie L.

John S. French, born in 1819 in Plainfield, is a son of Nathaniel and grandson of John French. His mother was Rachel (Spaulding) French. Nathaniel French was a farmer and carpenter. He was in the legislature one year, was town clerk and treasurer several years and held other of the town offices. He came to the farm where John S. now lives in about 1814. John S. French is a farmer, and has always lived at the old homestead where he was born. He taught school about thirty terms when a young man. He was in the legislature in 1848 and again in 1879, was town clerk and treasurer eleven years, has been on the board of education about forty-five years, and has held

other town offices as a republican. He was married in 1839 to Jane H. Lathrop. They have four children: Henry H., John F., Ella J. (Mrs. George O. Gadbois) and Ernest L., who is married and lives with his father. John F. was in the war of the rebellion three years.

Benjamin D. Gallup, born in 1828 in Sterling, Conn., is a son of John and grandson of Benjamin Gallup. His mother, Orra, was a daughter of Benjamin Dow. Mr. Gallup is a farmer. He was married in 1856 to Sarah L., daughter of John and Mary (Wilcox) Tanner. They have three children: Mary (Mrs. Justin L. Johnson), Irving B. and Myrtie J.

John R. Gallup was born in 1827 in Sterling, Conn. He is a son of Samuel, whose father, Nathaniel, was a son of John Gallup. His mother was Maria, daughter of Elisha Parks. Mr. Gallup is a farmer. He came from Sterling and bought the farm of 136 acres where he now lives. The house where he lives was built about 1810, by Samuel Frink. He was married in 1851 to Amarilla, daughter of Saxon Frink, a son of Samuel Frink. They have three children: Luetta F., Herbert A. and Ida M.

Mary A. Gardner is a daughter of John Gardner and granddaughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (Sweet) Gardner, of Rhode Island. Her mother was Mary, daughter of Isaac and Mary (Mason) Parkis. John Gardner was a farmer and died in 1859. The house where Miss Gardner lives was built by Isaac Parkis in 1816. She is one of three daughters, two of whom died in infancy. Her parents adopted a daughter, Louisa, who is now Mrs. Simon Shepard.

John C. Gibson, born in 1832 in Sterling, Conn., is a son of Ira and grandson of Campbell Gibson. Mr. Gibson has been overseer of mule spinning about thirty-four years. He has been at Moosup and vicinity about forty years, working at cotton and woolen manufacturing. He was married in 1854 to Almira, daughter of Nathan B. and Lois (Bates) Holly. They have two sons—Albert I. and George F.

Jonathan Greene, born in 1818 in West Greenwich, R. I., is a son of Jeremiah and grandson of Abel Greene. His mother was Freelove Hopkins. Mr. Greene has a farm of 200 acres about one mile east of Plainfield village, where he lived from 1869 to 1886, when he came to Plainfield and bought the Judge Gallup farm, where he now lives. He was married in 1869 to Lettie Brown. They have four children: Carrie M., Frank B., Gracie A. and Harrie E. Mr. Greene is a democrat.

Daniel H. Grover was born in 1845 in Killingly. He is a son of Jonathan Grover, who was in the war of 1812. The latter was a son of Stephen, who was a revolutionary soldier and son of Zephaniah Grover. His mother was Lovice, daughter of Alvin Kingsley. Mr. Grover was educated at Plainfield Academy, and has taught school about twenty years. In 1883 he came to Moosup, and since that time has been bookkeeper for merchants here. He was married in 1880 to Ellen H., daughter of Benjamin Phillips and granddaughter of Nicholas Phillips. They have one son, Harry L. Mr. Grover is a member of Plainfield Union Baptist church. He is a republican and a member of Moosup Lodge, No. 113, F. & A. M.

Elisha P. Hale, born in 1822 in Plainfield, is a son of Stephen and Hannah (Potter) Hale. His grandparents were Job and Margaret (Mason) Hale. Job was born in 1745, and bought the farm where Mr. Hale now lives in 1804, and it has been in the family since that time. Elisha P. was born in the house where he now lives. He has been a farmer for half a century, but for the last few years has lived retired. He was a member of the legislature in 1859, and again in 1874, and has held town offices. He is a republican. He was married in 1852 to Abbie A., daughter of Daniel and Deborah (Wood) Hill. She was a granddaughter of Edward Hill.

Mason W. Hale, born in 1817, in Plainfield, is a son of Stephen and Hannah (Potter) Hale. In 1839 he went to Phenix, R. I., and had charge of the weaving in a mill there about ten years, then he was superintendent of the mill five years. In 1854 he went to Bowen's Hill, in Coventry, R. I., where he worked at farming about twelve years. In 1867 he returned to the town of Plainfield. He was married in 1841 to Nancy Bowen. She died in 1854, and he married her sister, who lived about twelve years. In 1873 he married Betsey E. Moredock. He has one daughter by his first wife: Mary Emma. He represented the town of Coventry in the Rhode Island legislature, and has been selectman in this town about three years. He is a republican and a member of Plainfield Union Baptist church.

Edward P. Hall was born in 1812 in Plainfield. His father, William, was a son of Stephen and grandson of Stephen Hall, who was born in 1719 and died in 1818. His mother was Ruth, daughter of David Davis. Mr. Hall is a farmer. In 1854 he built a house on Plainfield street, and in 1877 he built a tasty lit-

tle residence near by for his own use. He was married in 1852 to Elizabeth R., daughter of Joshua B. and Hannah (Rathbon) Comstock.

Jared Hall was born in 1834 in Plainfield. He is a son of Ebenezer, son of William, son of John, son of Samuel Hall. Mr. Hall devoted his time for several years to woolen manufacturing. In 1874 he bought the place where he now lives, and since that time has turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. He was married in 1854 to Susan S. Benson. They had five children: James E., Susan J., Emory J., Dora M. and Alvah. The three last mentioned are deceased. Mr. Hall is a member of Moosup Lodge, No. 113, F. & A. M.

Stephen Hall, son of Captain William Hall, was born in 1816, and died in 1887. He was educated at Plainfield Academy, and later in a theological school in Maine, and in a short time in Providence. He taught district and select schools for many years. He came to Moosup and built a school house, where he kept a select school for several years. He also built the residence where the family now live. He was married to Mary, daughter of John and Sophia Westcott. They had eight children: Charles M., Eugene A., George A., Ella J., Frank W., Fred. M., Lizzie E. (deceased), and Walter C. Mr. Hall was a member of the Congregational church.

William F. Hall was born in 1820 in Plainfield. He is a son of William, and grandson of Stephen, whose father, Stephen Hall, died in April, 1818, aged 99 years. His mother was Ruth, daughter of David Davis. Mr. Hall is a farmer. He lived in Slatersville about 28 years, and came to the farm where he now lives in 1874. He has been selectman three terms as a republican. He was married in 1852 to Abbie E., daughter of William Shepard, he a son of Simon, he a son of Simon Shepard. They have three children: William H., Ruth A. and Edward. Mr. Hall is a member of Plainfield Ecclesiastical society.

Hiram Harris, son of Edwin Harris, was born in 1834 in Brooklyn, Conn. His mother was Rachel Harris. Mr. Harris devoted about twenty years of his life to cotton manufacturing, and was overseer about eleven years of that time. In 1866 he bought the mill property in the northeastern part of this town, and since that time he has run a grist, saw, shingle and cider mill. He was married in 1856 to Cynthia E. Lyon. They have

four children: Eugene A., Agnes M. (Mrs. Charles Ayer), Winifred Estella and Florence Ellen. Mr. Harris is a republican.

Alfred T. Hill was born in 1856 in Plainfield. His father, Harry, was a son of Daniel and grandson of Edward Hill. His mother is Ruth, daughter of Samuel and Freelove (Potter) Miller. Prior to 1882 Mr. Hill was a farmer. In the fall of that year he bought a house and lot at Almyville. He was clerk in the Almyville store about four years prior to October 1st, 1887, when he formed a partnership with Alfred H. Hyde, firm of Hill & Hyde, at Moosup. The firm still runs under that name. He was married in 1879 to Clara M., daughter of Edgar and Maria Amsbury. They have one daughter, Abbie M. Mr. Hill is a republican.

Alexander Hill, born in 1821 in Plainfield, is a son of Daniel, and grandson of Edward Hill. His mother was Deborah (Wood) Hill. Mr. Hill was a farmer in the northern part of the town until 1888. In the spring of that year he moved to Moosup where he is living retired. He was married in 1843 to Ruth, daughter of Parker Hill, of Sterling, Conn. They have four children: Mercy E. (Mrs. Joshua Hill), Catherine (Mrs. Henry Knight), Ann M. and Leroy, who died aged 19 years. He is a member of Plainfield Union Baptist church.

Orrin A. Hill, born in 1836 in Plainfield, is a son of Jonathan, and grandson of Jonathan Hill. His mother was Orra Tyler. Mr. Hill learned the trade of house carpenter, and after following the trade for several years, he turned his attention to farming. In 1871 he bought the farm where he now lives. The place was owned by the Union Mill Company for a good many years. He was married in 1857 to Nancy, daughter of Aaron and Thankful (Sheffield) Belden. They have three children: Hattie E., Leroy A. and George E. Mr. Hill is a democrat.

Ruth M. Hill was born in 1818 in Plainfield, and is a daughter of Samuel and Freelove (Potter) Miller. Her grandparents were James and Louise (Parkis) Miller. She was married in 1838 to Harry Hill, son of Daniel and grandson of Edward Hill. Mr. Hill was a farmer, having lived at this place since 1838. He was born in 1815 and died in 1873. They had three children: Charles W., Freelove Anna (Mrs. Charles A. Sanderson) and Alfred T. Mr. Sanderson is a farmer, and he with his family (wife and two children) live on the farm with Mrs. Hill.

Alfred H. Hyde, born in 1858 in Plainfield, is a son of William I., and grandson of Ira Hyde. His mother is Sarah M. (Potter) Hyde. Mr. Hyde, in company with Alfred T. Hill, under the firm name of Hill & Hyde, bought the meat business at Moosup of G. P. Dorrance in October, 1887. In April following the market was enlarged and now they have three rooms, two for meat and canned goods, and one for an office. They have two wagons on the road. They handle about one ton of beef per week, and other meats and canned goods in proportion. Mr. Hyde is a republican, and a member of Plainfield Union Baptist church.

John J. Kelley was born in 1831 in South Newmarket, N. H. His father Benjamin, was a son of Benjamin, and grandson of Joseph, whose father Thomas came from Dublin, Ireland, in 1727 to Dover, N. H. His mother was Sarah (Swan) Kelley. Mr. Kelley was in the war of the rebellion in Company C, Third Massachusetts Cavalry, from 1862 to 1864. He was in mercantile business in Boston from 1859 to 1869, excepting the two years he was in the war. From 1869 to 1886 he was overseer and superintendent of woolen and cotton mills. In 1886 he came from Salem to this town and bought a farm of 75 acres, and since that time has been a farmer. He was married in 1852 to Mary Cobb. She died in 1859, leaving one son, George J. He was married in 1861, to Maria, daughter of Paul Vinal. He is a member of Eastern Star Lodge, No. 44, F. & A. M., of Willimantic, and of Trinity Chapter No. 9.

Horace Kennedy, born in 1844 in Plainfield, is a son of Robert, and grandson of Robert Kennedy. His mother is Clarissa, daughter of Noah and Elizabeth (Gallup) Briggs. Noah was a son of William and Elizabeth (Gallup) Briggs. Mr. Kennedy worked in a saw and grist mill at Central Village several years. He came to Moosup in 1878 and bought a farm, which he has since operated. He was married in May, 1873, to Sarah Rouse, who died the spring following. He was married in December, 1875, to Mary Jane Wells. They have two sons—Frederick A. and Frank E. Mr. Kennedy is a republican.

Joshua S. Kennedy, born in 1823 in Plainfield, is a son of Joshua, and grandson of Alexander Kennedy. His mother was Clarissa, daughter of Joshua Hall. Mr. Kennedy is a farmer, occupying the homestead where his father settled about 1811 and lived till his death, which occurred in 1856. He has been

selectman several years, and has filled other town offices. He was married in 1844 to Joanna West. They had four children: Charles E., Frank P., Eliza J. and Eva; the three last mentioned are deceased. The wife died in 1855. He was married in 1861 to Abbie E. Adams. They have one daughter, Jennie A., now Mrs. John W. Dawley. Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy are members of Plainfield Union Baptist church.

William H. Kenyon, born in 1849 in Charlestown, R. I., is a son of Godfrey A. and grandson of Captain John Kenyon. His mother was Minerva C., daughter of Jarvis Kenyon. Mr. Kenyon is a carpenter by trade. He came to Moosup in 1879 and worked at his trade until 1887. In March of that year he established a partnership with A. P. Tabor (firm of Tabor & Kenyon) and bought the stock of Aldrich & Milner, and ran what had before been the Company store of Almyville. He was married in 1883 to Lucy J., daughter of Mowrey B. Spalding. They have one son, Harold G. He is a member of Charity Lodge, No. 23, F. & A. M., and also a member of Mechanics' Lodge, No. 14, I. O. of O. F., both of Washington county, Rhode Island.

John P. Kingsley, born in 1823 in Canterbury, Conn., is a son of John and grandson of Hezekiah Kingsley, who was a captain in the war of the revolution. His mother, Mary, was a daughter of Joseph Raymond. Mr. Kingsley was educated at Plainfield Academy, and at Worcester one year. He was a farmer in Norwich about fifteen years. From there he went to Canterbury in 1869, and until 1887 kept a general store there. In 1875 the firm of J. P. Kingsley & Sons was established, and the business is still carried on at Plainfield Junction. In 1887 Mr. Kingsley came to Plainfield where he now resides. He was married in 1844 to Clarissa Mathewson, who died in 1849, leaving one son, Milton J. He was married again to Elizabeth Scofield. They have four children: Walter, Emma, Carrie and Lizzie. In Canterbury Mr. Kingsley was judge of probate and town treasurer several years, and a member of the legislature two terms. He was postmaster about sixteen years. He is a republican.

Milton J. Kingsley was born in 1849 in Norwich, Conn. His father, John P. Kingsley, is a son of John and grandson of Hezekiah Kingsley. His mother was Clarissa, daughter of George Mathewson. He was educated at Norwich. In September, 1871, he started a store at Plainfield Junction, and in 1875 the firm of J. P. Kingsley & Sons (John P., Milton J. and Walter Kingsley)

was established, and has been run under that name since that time. Mr. Kingsley was married in 1877 to Hattie L., daughter of Deacon William B. Ames, of Plainfield. They have one daughter, Nettie M. Mr. Kingsley is a republican.

Jason P. Lathrop, son of Jason Lathrop, was born in 1849 in Griswold, Conn. His mother is Susan, daughter of Rowland Peckham. Mr. Lathrop was six years with the Smith Granite Company, of Westerly, prior to 1887. In the spring of that year he came to Central Village, where he has been engaged in farming. He was married in 1883 to Maggie H., daughter of Walter and Hannah Palmer, of Plainfield. They have one daughter, Susie H. Mr. Lathrop is a democrat.

Charles H. Lewis, born in 1843 in Griswold, Conn., is a son of Frank C. and Maria M. (Pierce) Lewis. His mother is a daughter of James Pierce, he a son of Nathaniel, and he a son of John Pierce. Mr. Lewis was in the war of the rebellion for about fourteen months, in Company H, 18th Connecticut volunteers, and was a prisoner of war in Libby and Belle Island about two months. In 1880 he went to Minnesota and was interested in a store there about eighteen months. In March, 1883, he came to Central Village, and bought the drug business of A. Walker, and has carried on the business there since that time. He was married in 1880 to Cora M. Shaw. They have one son, Henry Elmer. Mr. Lewis is a republican, and a member of Sedgewick Post, No. 1, G. A. R.

Parley W. Lewis was born in 1852 in Canterbury. He is a son of T. A. Lewis, whose father was Parley Lewis. His mother is Frances M., daughter of William Adams. Mr. Lewis came to this town in 1870. In 1875 he began work in the Plainfield station, and since October, 1885, has been station agent. He married Louisa A., daughter of Charles H. Johnson, and has three children: Alice L., Wilfred P. and Harold J. He is a republican.

Moses A. Linnell was born in 1845 in Providence, R. I. His father Moses, was a son of John, and grandson of Samuel Linnell. His mother was Martha H., daughter of William Hall. Mr. Linnell's father enlisted in 1861 in the United States service, and died in the same year of fever while on his way to the front. Mr. Linnell learned the watchmaker and jeweler's trade in 1868. He was for two years engaged in top roller covering in North Grosvenor Dale, Conn. Afterward he kept a clothing

store and jeweler's store at same place until 1881, when he removed the business to Moosup, where he has been since that time. He was married in 1873 to Laura, daughter of Lyman S. Botham, of East Thompson, Conn. They had one daughter, Eva, who died in infancy. Mr. Linnell is a member of Putnam Lodge, No. 46, F. & A. M.

William J. S. Lock, born in 1823 in Richmond, R. I., is a son of Joshua R. and Waitey (Sheldon) Lock. Mr. Lock was a farmer in Richmond, R. I., until 1863, then removed to Packerville, where he superintended the farm of E. A. Packer for seven years, then he removed to Plainfield Junction, where he lived until 1877, when he came to the farm where he now lives. He has held some of the town offices, and is a republican. He was married in 1843 to Catharine, daughter of Henry Steadman. They have one daughter, Almira C. They lost three sons: Henry J. N., William F. and William E. Almira C. is now Mrs. B. A. Northup. She has five children: Hattie, William E., Henry J., Andrew B. and Bessie E. Mr. Lock is a member of the Plainfield Union Baptist church. His wife, daughter and three grandsons are members of the same church.

Gorge Loring, son of George and Lucy (Lester) Loring, was born in 1830 in New London county. He is a tinsmith by trade. He kept a tin, wood and glass store at Central Village about seventeen years. He sold the business several years ago, and built the residence where he now lives in 1864. He has been selectman several years, chairman of the board four years, and was elected to the general assembly in 1879. He has three children living: William L., Henry K. and Robert H. He is a republican.

Lucius B. Morgan was born in 1839 in Canterbury. His father, Elisha A., was a son of Lott, and grandson of Isaac, who came to Plainfield and settled on the farm where Mr. Morgan now lives. The farm has not been out of the family since that time. Mr. Morgan is a farmer. He is on the board of selectmen for the third term as a republican. Elisha A. was selectman several times. He was married in March, 1834, to Philura A., daughter of Lucius and Ann (Lamb) Bacon, and a granddaughter of Samuel, a son of Joseph, and he a son of John Bacon, who was born in England in 1683. They had two children, Martha A. and Lucius B., who now live with their mother on the homestead. Elisha A. was born in 1805, and died in 1879.

Thomas E. Main was born in 1848 in North Stonington, Conn. He is a son of Sands B., whose father David, was a son of Peter Main. His mother was Eliza C. (Perry) Main. His grandmother was Dorcas (Palmer) Main. Mr. Main has been a mill operative since he was 18 years of age. He came to Almyville in November, 1880, where he has been overseer of weaving. He was married in 1869 to Julia E., daughter of James and Sarah Babcock. They have three children: James O., Lewis S. and Howard E. He is a member of Moosup Methodist Episcopal church, and has been superintendent of the Sunday school about seven years. He is a member of Moosup Lodge, No. 113, F. & A. M., and a republican.

Nathaniel Medbury, born in 1829 in Plainfield, was a son of Nathaniel, and grandson of Nathaniel Medbury. Mr. Medbury came to Wauregan in 1854 as a mill operative, and a few years later was made overseer of weaving, and continued in that position until his death, in 1887. He was a democrat in politics, and a member of the Congregational church. He was married in 1854 to Susan F., daughter of Sabin L. and Maria (Phillips) Hawkins. Her grandfather was George Hawkins. They had two children, Frank W. and Hattie A., who is now Mrs. Frank S. Downer. Mr. Downer is an operative at Wauregan.

Frank Miller was born in 1857 in Plainfield. He is a son of James and Susan (Titus) Miller, and a grandson of Samuel and Freelove (Potter) Miller. Mr. Miller was for six years in a grocery store at Putnam. He came back to the homestead in 1881, and since that time has been a farmer. The farm has been in the Miller family for several generations. He was married in 1881 to Ada E. Medbury, and has one son, Clyde S.

Samuel D. Millett, born in 1808, was a son of Samuel and Rachel (Douglass) Millett. He was a mill operative in his younger days, and in 1854 came to the place where his widow now lives, and interested himself in agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in 1884. He was in the legislature one term, and was an active member of the Methodist church of Moosup. He was married in 1833 to Sarah A., daughter of Nathan and Elizabeth (Medbury) Carpenter. They had one son, Edward M., who was married in 1856 to D. Ann Kinney. They had two daughters: Ella J. and Lillie E. Edward M. was an operative in woolen mills for several years prior to his death, which occurred in 1875. He was an active member of the Moos-

up Methodist Episcopal church. The farm where the two widows now live was owned by Edward Medbury from 1801 until his death and then by his son Edward until his death, when it fell to Samuel D. Millett.

Henry S. Newton was born in 1817 in Voluntown, Conn. He is a son of Israel and Nancy Newton and grandson of Matthew Newton, who came from England to this country when a boy, with his father, Matthew Newton. Mr. Newton is a farmer. He has lived on the farm where he now resides since 1839. He was married in 1837 and had eight children: Henry F., Charles S., John M., Alice J., Horace I., Annie L., Susie B. and Otis P. His wife died in 1883. Charles S. was in the war of the rebellion in Company G, 11th Connecticut volunteers, and died August 31st, 1862. Henry F. was in Company B, 21st Connecticut Volunteers, from August, 1862, to May, 1864. He is now a member of Kilburn Post, No. 77, G. A. R., also a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M. He represented the town in the legislature in 1882 as a republican.

Matthew S. Nichols, son of Luke Nichols, was born in 1824 in Westerly, R. I. He was educated at district schools and later in a select school. He learned the trade of a machinist, working about five years. He then went to California, returning in 1851, and in 1865 went to Norwich, where he studied dentistry one year, coming to Central Village in 1866, where he has since practiced. He is the originator and manufacturer of "Nichols' Carbolic Dentifrice," and also a similar preparation called "Coral Sea Foam." He was married May 18th, 1870, to Mary E., daughter of Kimball Kennedy. They have one son, Walter K. Doctor Nichols is a republican, a member of Central Congregational church and a member of Moosup Lodge, No. 113, F. & A. M.

George H. Palmer was born in September, 1831. He is a son of Harry Palmer, who was the seventh generation from Walter Palmer, who was born in England in 1598, and came to New England in 1629. His mother was Caroline E., daughter of Samuel Dorrance. Mr. Palmer is a farmer, living on the farm where the family has lived for nearly one hundred years. The house where he now lives was built about 1800. There have been three generations of the family born in it. He was married in 1854 to Prudence L. Phillips. She died in 1868, leaving two children—Harriet D. and Edward G. He is a republican.

Samuel Palmer was born in 1826 in Plainfield. He is a son of Samuel, whose father was Walter, and he a son of Walter, and he a son of Walter, whose father was Walter, who was a son of Gershom, and he a son of Walter. His mother was Lydia R., daughter of Colonel Abraham Ormsbee. Mr. Palmer was in a woolen factory about five years, and since that time has been a farmer. He has always lived in Plainfield. Since 1866 he has lived on the Shepard homestead. He was married in 1850 to Lucy G. Shepard. They have one son—Samuel F. His wife is a daughter of William, he a son of Simon, and he a son of Simon Shepard. Her mother was Martha Gallup, whose father was Simon Gallup.

Walter Palmer was born in 1824 in Plainfield. His father, Samuel, was a son of Walter and grandson of Walter, who was the first of the family to settle in this town. His father, Walter, was a son of Walter and grandson of Gershom, who was a son of Walter Palmer, who was born in 1598 and died in 1662. He came from Nottinghamshire, England, to Charlestown, Mass., in 1629. Mr. Palmer's mother was Lydia R., daughter of Abraham Ormsbee. Mr. Palmer is a farmer and cattle dealer. He represented the town in the house of representatives in 1878, and has been selectman and judge of probate. He was married in 1848 to Hannah, daughter of Captain William Shepard. They have three children: Walter L., Maggie H. (Mrs. Jason P. Lathrop) and Martha E.

Peleg M. Peckham was born in 1822 in Hopkinton, R. I. He is a son of Reverend Peleg Peckham, who was pastor of the Sterling Hill church for about forty years, and was a son of Judge Samuel Peckham. His mother was a daughter of Benjamin Burdick. Mr. Peckham learned the carriage maker's trade when a young man. He has been a railroad car builder for the past forty years, with the Stonington Railroad Company. He was foreman of the shop about thirty-five years. He came to Moosup in 1886 and bought a house and lot, and since that time has been living a retired life. He was married in 1844 to Rachel E. Gallup She died in 1862, leaving one son, Albert M., who died in 1883. He was married again in 1863 to Emeline Gallup. He is a member of the Plainfield Union Baptist church and a republican. He was for several years a member of the Franklin Lyceum of Providence.

Perry S. Phillips was born in 1826 in Sterling, Conn. He is a son of Palmer G., who was in the war of 1812, he a son of Reverend Simon Phillips, whose father came from Scotland to Rhode Island. His mother was Betsey Farnum. Mr. Phillips has been a mill operative nearly all his life. He has been overseer of weaving for about forty years. He was three years at Brooklyn, Conn., and ran the "Mont Lake" house there from 1875 to 1878. He has been on the board of selectmen about ten years, at different times. He is a republican. He was married in 1850 to Susan E. Wells. They had one son, Carlton M., who died of heart disease in 1883. Mr. Phillips is a member of the Ecclesiastical Society of the Baptist church, and was president of the society several years. He is a member of Moosup Lodge, No. 113, F. & A. M., also a member of the Chapter.

Havilah M. Prior, born in 1829, is a son of John, and grandson of Joseph Prior. His mother was Ruth, daughter of Edward Medbury. Mr. Prior is a machinist, having worked at that trade from 1851 until 1879, since which time he has been a farmer. He has been a member of the school committee and held some other town offices. He represented the town in the legislature in 1882. He was married in 1856 to Mary S. Potter. She died in 1859, leaving one daughter, Ruth J., who is now Mrs. James W. Thornly. He was married again in 1860 to Jane, daughter of Eben Phillips, who was a son of Nicholas Phillips. They have one son, John E., who was married in 1888 to Grace Putnam.

Samuel P. Robinson, born in 1808 in Canterbury, is a son of Samuel, and grandson of Josiah Robinson. His mother was Abigail Glover. Mr. Robinson is a carriage maker by trade. In 1857 he started an iron foundry company in Canterbury, firm name of Robinson & Fowler, and in 1858 they took in other partners and called the firm Robinson, Fowler & Co. In 1867 they started another foundry at Plainfield Junction, and in 1870 the two were consolidated. He came to Plainfield to live in 1870. He was married in 1844 to Helen L., daughter of Joseph Goodwin. They have two children: Ella, who died, and Edward G., who was married in 1870 to Nellie S. Clark. They have two daughters. Mr. Robinson was in some of the town offices of Canterbury as a republican.

George A. Rouse, born in 1841 in Coventry, R. I., is a son of James, and grandson of James Rouse. His mother is Harriet

M. Mathewson. Mr. Rouse enlisted in September, 1861, in Company F, Eighth Connecticut infantry as a private. September 17th, 1862, he was appointed sergeant, and September 29th, 1864, was promoted to orderly sergeant. He was discharged September 11th, 1865. He was wounded at Fort Harrison September 29th, 1864, and lost his left leg in consequence. He began work at the harness maker's trade in 1867, and has since made that his business. He has held town offices, and in 1875 represented the town in the legislature as a democrat. He was married in 1870 to Sarah M., daughter of Calvin Pike. They have one daughter, Ella E. He is now a republican.

William Roney, son of Thomas Roney, was born in Ireland in 1832, and died in Moosup in 1874. He came to America when a boy, was a farmer in Sterling about twenty years, and in 1870 came to Moosup and bought the farm where the family now live. He was married in 1855 to Mary, daughter of John Jackson. They had six children: Ida A. (Mrs. Harlow Ladd), Frederick, Alfred, John, William and one that died, named Jennie. Mr. Roney was a democrat.

John D. Rood was born in 1821 in Killingly, Conn. He is a son of Cyrus, whose father Isaac, was a son of Jacob Rood. His mother was Ruth, daughter of Joshua Card. Mr. Rood is a carpenter by trade, but being a natural mechanic has not been entirely confined to the trade. The last twenty years he has paid some attention to agricultural pursuits. He represented the town in the legislature in 1870. He has been on the board of selectmen several terms, and has filled other town offices as a republican. He has been married three times: first to Rebecca Eaton, second to Lydia C. Wells and last to Fannie Baker. There have been two children by each marriage. He is a charter member of Moosup Lodge, No. 113, F. & A. M., and has been master of the order five years. He is a member of the Columbia Commandery, No. 4, of Norwich.

Joseph Rood, born in 1834 in Plainfield, is a son of Solomon and Mercy (Matteson) Rood, and grandson of Joseph Rood. He lived in Plainfield until 1870, and since that time has lived just south of the town line in Griswold. He has about 1,000 acres of land. While in Plainfield he was selectman several years. In Griswold he has been selectman and justice several terms, and represented the town in the legislature in 1874 and in 1886 as a republican. He was married in 1850 to Frances Fry. They

have two children living—Charles W. and Joseph, Jr.; they lost three—Frank N., John H. and Daniel. He is a member of the Masonic order and also a member of the Knights of Pythias.

William H. Sargent, born in 1842 in Worcester, Mass., is a son of Francis F. and grandson of Daniel H. Sargent. His mother was Susan H., daughter of Ralph Rice. Mr. Sargent graduated in medicine at the Cincinnati Medical College in 1874. In 1876 he opened a drug store in Massachusetts, where he was engaged until 1881. In November of that year he came to Moosup and bought out W. H. Hurlburt in the drug store and succeeded him in the business. He was in the war of the rebellion from 1861 to 1864 in Company B, 32d Massachusetts volunteers. He was married in 1883 to Nettie L., daughter of George W. Davis, of Rhode Island. He is a member of Kilburn Post, No. 77, G. A. R., a member of Moosup Lodge, No. 113, F. & A. M. and has been secretary of that order since 1884. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Hubbardstown, Mass.

George W. Shepard was born in 1837 in Plainfield. His father, Captain Jeremiah M. Shepard, was a son of Jeremiah and grandson of Captain Simon Shepard. Mr. Shepard began at the age of nine years in cotton manufacturing in Central Village, and for six years prior to 1862 was overseer of spinning there. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company K, 21st Connecticut Volunteers, was commissioned as second sergeant October 11th, 1862, was promoted to second lieutenant November, 1863, was made first lieutenant, and a few months later was commissioned as captain of the company. He was discharged in 1864. In March, 1866, he came to Wauregan and since that time has been overseer of spinning. He was married in 1875 to Mary E. Dix. They have two children: Jay M. and Ellen L. He is a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M., and a member of Quinebaug Lodge, No. 22, A. O. U. W. He is a republican.

Albert E. Shoules, born in 1853, is a son of Orrin and grandson of Abial Shoules. His mother is Ardelia (Sweet) Shoules. Mr. Shoules is a farmer, and in March, 1882, he took charge of the town farm, and that year he kept five cows and one pair of horses and had to buy two tons of hay. This year he keeps fifteen head of cattle and a pair of horses, and put up about thirty-five tons of hay. In 1884 he built a basement barn 36 by 60 feet with 17 feet posts. He was married in 1875 to Mary E.

Palmer. They have one son, Lewis E. He is a democrat and a member of Moosup Lodge, No. 113, F. & A. M.

William S. Simmons was born in 1839 in Rhode Island, near Phenix. He is a son of Davenport S. and grandson of William S. Simmons. His mother was Mary A., daughter of Reverend Isaac Bonney. Mr. Simmons is a tinsmith by trade. He worked at the trade about four years. In September, 1861, he enlisted in Company F, 8th Connecticut volunteers. He was color sergeant. He and another color sergeant, Jacob Bishop, were the ones that planted the first Union colors on Fort Harrison, September 29th, 1864. They were promoted to second lieutenants for the act. On the 21st of February, 1865, he received a wound at Wilmington, N. C., and lost his left leg in consequence. He represented the town in the legislature in 1881. He was postmaster at Moosup seven years after the war. He was married in 1864 to Angeline L., daughter of Christopher Lyon. They have one daughter, Agnes L. He was in Florida a part of the time ten years prior to 1882. He has lived at Central Village since 1882.

John S. Smith was born in 1823 in Preston. He is a son of Elisha, who held a captain's commission for several years in a military company, and a grandson of Asa, who was a son of Jeremiah. His mother was Mary, daughter of Samuel Henry. He came to Plainfield in 1856, and owns a farm of 230 acres. The house where he now lives was built in 1828 by Mason Cornell. He was selectman for several years. He was married in 1854 to Frances C., daughter of Mason Cornell, a son of William, he a son of Gideon, and he a son of Stephen. Her mother was Philena A., daughter of John Monroe. The names of their four children are: William C., Anna P., Mary C. (now Mrs. Everett E. Brown) and Arthur M. Mr. Smith has been a prohibitionist since 1872.

Daniel Spaulding was born in 1838 in Plainfield. His father, Daniel, was a son of Daniel. His mother was Dinah Medbury. He is one of three children now living: Rachel, Daniel and Lydia H. Mr. Spaulding has been a farmer at this place for twenty-two years, and owns a part of what was the homestead of his father and grandfather. He has been selectman six years, and has filled other town offices. He was married in 1868 to Laura A., daughter of William Hiscock. They have two children, Grace M. and Charles N. Mr. Spaulding is a republican.

Henry C. Starkweather, born in Windham in 1826, is a son of Elisha and grandson of Ephraim Starkweather. In 1845 he went to Providence, R. I., where he was employed in the bleaching and dyeing business until 1855, when he removed to Norwich, Conn., where he was engaged in the same business until 1862, at which time he came to Plainfield. He has been assessor of taxes, justice of the peace, county commissioner three years, and represented the town in the legislature in 1874. In January, 1886, he was appointed postmaster at Plainfield, which office he now holds. He was married in 1858 to Ellen Dillaby. She died in 1864, leaving two daughters, Emma A. and Hattie B. He was married in 1865 to Sarah D. Burdick, by whom he has one son, Henry S. He also has one son by a former marriage, Festus L. He is a member of Moosup Lodge, No. 113, F. & A. M.

Jeremiah Starkweather, born in 1809 in Burlington, N. Y., is a son of Jeremiah and grandson of Aaron Starkweather. Mr. Starkweather has been a farmer, with the exception of about ten years, during which time he was station agent. He has been judge of probate, and has held other town offices, as a republican. He was married first in 1838, to Hannah Card. She died in 1849. He was married in 1855 to Roby, daughter of George Kenyon, who came from Rhode Island to this town when a boy (about 1795). He was in the war of 1812.

Harriet Stockley was born in England, and is a daughter of Joseph Whitaker. She was married December 25th, 1848, to William Stockley. They came to Slatersville, R. I., in the spring following, where he was employed as mill operative. In 1857 they removed to Wauregan, where Mr. Stockley was overseer of mule spinning until 1875, when he retired on account of his health, and he died the February following, aged 53 years. They had two sons: John W., who died in infancy, and Arthur W., who was in the Company store at Wauregan about seven years. He was married in 1878 to Mary Leach, and died in 1881. His widow was married in 1885 to John F. Lewis. They have one daughter, Mary L. Mrs. Stockley came to Central Village in January, 1882, where she now lives with Mr. Lewis and his family. Mr. Stockley was a republican and a member of Moosup Lodge, No. 113, F. & A. M.

Amasa P. Tabor was born in 1846, in Cazenovia, Madison county, N. Y. His father was Peleg C., son of Peleg Tabor. His mother was Abbie, daughter of Amasa Borden. Mr. Tabor

moved from New York to Coventry, R. I., in 1858. He was first interested in the mercantile trade in 1870, at Green Station, R. I., with Charles J. Borden (firm of Borden & Tabor). In 1871 Mr. Tabor bought his partner's interest, for seven years carried on the business alone, and in 1878 sold out to Oliver Lewis. He was in this town from 1880 to 1885, as agent for Aldrich & Milner; then he was with a Providence firm two years, and in March, 1887, he came back to Almyville, and since that time he has been a member of the firm of Tabor & Kenyon, general merchants. He was married in 1860 to Peora F. Jencks. They have two children living, Irving A. and Abbie P., and two died in infancy. He enlisted in the 1st R. I. Light Artillery in March, 1865, and was discharged in June. He is a member of Kilburn Post, No. 77, G. A. R., a member of the Masonic order, and also of the Odd Fellows.

Nathaniel P. Thompson was born in 1827 in Voluntown, Conn. He is a son of Isaac W., and grandson of Reuben Thompson. His mother is Anna, daughter of Major John Wilcox, son of Abram Wilcox. Mr. Thompson was a mill operative from a lad until 1861. In September of that year he enlisted in Company K, 21st Connecticut volunteers. He was wounded in the left hand at Drury's Bluff, May 16th, 1862, and was discharged in February, 1865. In the spring of the same year he came to Central Village, and was employed as a mill operative until 1872, and since that time he has been constable and deputy sheriff, with the exception of two years collector. He was married in 1851 to Maria, daughter of John R. Snow. They have three children: Frank S., Mary I. (Mrs. Daniel Shippee), and Annie L. Mr. Thompson is a member of Moosup Lodge, No. 113, F. & A. M., and Kilburn Post, No. 77, G. A. R.

Abbie C. Tillinghast is a daughter of Knight Spalding, and granddaughter of Reuben Spalding. Her mother was Lucy (Prior) Spalding. She was married in 1861 to Rufus Kennedy, who died in 1872. He was a son of Robert Kennedy, and was a manufacturer here for several years, and later a farmer. She was married a few years later to Mr. Tillinghast, who was killed by a locomotive.

Charles A. Tillinghast was born in 1808 in Voluntown, Conn. He is a son of Joseph, son of Charles, son of John, son of Pardon, son of Elder Pardon Tillinghast, who came from England to Providence. His mother was Sarah, daughter of William

Gorton. Mr. Tillinghast learned the cabinet maker's trade, worked at it about eight years, and has since been a machinist. He has worked at the latter trade about 57 years. He came to Moosup in 1847, and in 1848 he built the house which he has occupied since that time. He was married in 1831 to Sophia, daughter of Andrew and Martha (Parkis) Young. They have two children living, Alva H. and Jennie S., now Mrs. T. Avery Tillinghast. They lost three children in infancy: Sarah F., Helen S. and Charles E. Mr. Tillinghast is a republican, and a member of Plainfield Union Baptist church.

Frank C. Tillinghast was born in 1860 in Sterling, Conn. His father, Albert, was a son of George and grandson of Elder Pardon Tillinghast. His mother was Orra, daughter of Benjamin Clark. Mr. Tillinghast is a farmer. He came to this town in 1888 and bought a farm of 190 acres of Alexander Hill. He was married in 1888 to Lizzie, daughter of Russell Hill, of Sterling, Conn. He is a member of Plainfield Union Baptist church.

Frank H. Tillinghast, son of Waldo Tillinghast, was born in 1860 in Plainfield. Mr. Tillinghast was educated at the Plainfield Academy and at Schofield's Business College of Providence. He had charge of a store for his father at Packerville about two years prior to 1883. In October of that year he, in company with Mr. Palmer, purchased the goods in the Company store at Central Village, and it was run as Tillinghast & Palmer until July, 1886. At that time Palmer retired and Mr. Tillinghast has since been alone. He was married in 1882 to Annie M., daughter of Olney Dodge. He is a republican and a member of Moosup Lodge, No. 113, F. & A. M.

Henry S. Tillinghast, born in 1835 in Killingly, is a son of Thomas S. and grandson of Deacon Pardon Tillinghast, of West Greenwich, R. I. Mr. Tillinghast carried on a hotel at Plainfield about three years prior to 1861. In August of that year he enlisted in Company C, First Squadron Connecticut Cavalry, and was mustered in at Searsdale in the "Harris Light," or 2d New York Cavalry. He has been engaged in buying farmers' produce and dealing in horses about nineteen years, and in February, 1887, he took the Moosup House, which he has run since that time. He was married in 1858 to Catharine T., daughter of Silas and Eliza Crain. They have had six children: George C., who was killed in 1880; Byron H., who died aged three years; Mary E., now Mrs. Walter Smith; Emma H., Willie A. and Bertha May, who died aged seven years.

George H. Tripp was born in 1862 in Thompson. His father, Henry D., was a son of John S. and grandson of Perry Tripp. His mother is Adelaide J. Simmons. Mr. Tripp was brought up a farmer, and in July, 1883, he established a coal and wood yard in Central Village. In 1885 he bought the Central block of Charles J. Aspinwall, and he now keeps grain and feed. He handles about 3,000 tons of coal per year. He was married in November, 1887, to Lena F., daughter of Rufus D. Curtis.

Perry G. Tripp, born in 1823 in Plainfield, is a son of John S. Tripp, born in Exeter, R. I., and grandson of Perry Tripp. His mother was Sarah, daughter of Samuel and Sarah Bissel. Samuel Bissel was a revolutionary soldier. He came to Plainfield in 1823. John S. Tripp came to this town at the same time and settled in the south part of the town. Mr. Tripp lived with his father until 1840; then he engaged in whaling about six years. In that time he went twice around the world. Since that time he has been a farmer. Prior to 1869 he was in Brooklyn, Conn., about twenty years. In 1869 he came to Plainfield and bought about two hundred acres. He still owns the farm in Brooklyn of about 250 acres. He keeps about forty cows. He was married in 1848 to Lydia A. Robbins. She died in 1874, leaving seven children: Perry G., Jr., Elihu S., John B., Emma, Isabel, Grace and Lizzie. He was married again in 1876 to Hattie Robbins. She has one daughter, Anna I. He has been selectman and held other town offices. He is a democrat. He is a member of Packerville Baptist church.

Joseph Vaughn was born in 1811 in Sterling. His father, Jesse Vaughn, who died in 1823 aged 77 years, had twelve children by his first wife; and by his second wife, Mary E. French, four children: John, Joseph, Lydia and Mary. Mr. Vaughn is the only one of the sixteen children now living. He was a blacksmith about fifteen years, then a farmer. He lived in Tolland, Conn., about twenty-five years. He came to Central Village and bought a house and lot in 1879, and has lived here since that time. He was married in 1838 and his wife died in 1865. He was married in 1866 to Mary Eliza Young. They have two children—John E. and Mary E. He has been deacon of Plainfield Union Baptist church about nine years.

William H. and John E. Williams are sons of William A. Williams. William H. was born in 1860 in Westerly, R. I. He began in 1880 to learn the blacksmith's trade, and has followed it

since that time. John E. was born in 1864. He began in 1883 in Norwich to learn the blacksmith's trade. They came to Moosup in 1887, October 10th, bought the blacksmith shop of John W. Fisk, and since that time have carried on a blacksmith business there. Their younger brother, Dudley B., also works with them. William H. was married in 1885 to Emily Finamore. They have one daughter, Ida.

Caleb P. Wilson, son of Jared Wilson, was born in 1813 in Sterling. He came to Wauregan in 1854 as overseer of weaving, and continued in that capacity until December, 1866. Since then he has been superintendent of the mill. Prior to 1854 he had been overseer of weaving in Central Village about eight years. He was a member of the legislature in 1851 as a whig. He was married first in 1839. He lost his first wife, and was married again in 1883. He is a republican.

Betsey A. Wilcox is the daughter of William Wilcox, who was born in 1801, in West Greenwich, R. I. He was a son of Thomas, and he a son of Nathan Wilcox. Mr. Wilcox left his home in West Greenwich at the age of 28, and from that time until 1844, he worked as stone mason in different parts of New England, and was four years in New York state. It is said that he built all the locks on the canal from Albany to Troy. From 1844 until his death, which occurred on November 19th, 1884, he had been a farmer. William Wilcox was married in 1849 to Mary A., daughter of Hezekiah French, who was a son of Isaac French. They had two daughters—Betsey A. and French, who died aged four years. Mr. Wilcox was a democrat.

Erbin S. Wilson, born in 1851 in Plainfield, is a son of Rufus, and grandson of Nathaniel Wilson. His mother is Phœbe, daughter of John and Celia Young. Rufus was married in 1849, and died in 1885. Nathaniel Wilson and his brother bought the farm where Erbin S. now lives about 1800. He built the house where Erbin S. now lives for his son Thomas. Nathaniel had eight children: Rufus, Thomas, Rachel, Eunice, Polly, Olive, Zylpha and Sally. Mr. Wilson was married in 1883 to Josie G., daughter of James H. Fairman. She died in 1884, leaving one son. He was married again in 1885 to Melissa, daughter of Cyrus Bennett. He is a republican, and a member of the Moosup Methodist Episcopal church.

Henry N. Wood, Jr., was born in 1850 in South Scituate, R. I. He is a son of Henry N. and Mary (Salisbury) Wood, and grand-

son of Nehemiah and Phila (Salisbury) Wood. Mr. Wood is a machinist by trade. He has lived at Wauregan since 1865, with the exception of five years. He was boss machinist at Phenix, R. I., for three years, and since he came back has been boss machinist at Wauregan Mills. He was married in 1871 to Ada, daughter of Enoch W. Waldo. They have two daughters, Cora M. and Minnie F. He is a member of Wauregan Congregational church, a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M., Warren Chapter, No. 12, and Protection Lodge, No. 19, I. O. of O. F.

Henry A. Young was born in 1838 in Killingly. He is a son of Stephen G., whose father was Stephen Young. His mother is Mary (Hill) Young. Stephen G. was a machinist by trade. He came from Killingly to this town in 1841, and in 1850 he bought a farm of 130 acres. He died in 1885. Henry A. is a farmer, occupying the homestead of his father. He was married in 1883 to Anna J., daughter of Joseph and Almira (Kimball) James, and granddaughter of Perry G., a son of Joseph James, who was a revolutionary soldier.

CANTERBURY.

Dwight Barstow was born in Canterbury Plains, August 8th, 1820. He is a son of Hezekiah and Rebecca (Gager) Barstow, and grandson of Hezekiah and Olive (Bradford) Barstow. He was educated in Canterbury, and is about the only living person that attended Prudence Crandall's school at the time she dismissed her white scholars and filled up her school with colored. He held the office of highway surveyor for thirty years. He was married to Amelia Lyon, September 18th, 1854, and their children are: Charles, George and Frank. Mr. Barstow is a member of the Congregational church. The family have occupied one slip in the Canterbury church for 50 years.

George L. Carey was born in Canterbury, October 12th, 1842, is a son of Benajah and Mary Bacon Adams Carey, and grandson of James and Phebe Carey. He was educated in the Canterbury schools. At the age of eighteen he enlisted in the 1st Connecticut cavalry, Company A, Captain Andrew W. Bowen. He served for three years under such generals as Grant, Sheridan, Custer and Sigel, and is now a member of Sedgwick Post, No. 1, G. A. R. His brother Dwight Carey, enlisted at the age of 16, and lost his life at the battle of Antietam. His remains

were brought home. His brother Asa B. Carey, is a graduate of West Point, served all through the rebellion, and is now paymaster in the regular army. Mr. Carey represented his town in the legislature for two sessions. He is married to Fannie R. Fisher, daughter of Benjamin F. and Fannie Havens Fisher. He attends the Congregational church.

T. G. Clarke was born in Franklin, Conn., June 16th, 1809. His parents were Allen G. and Celinda (Darling) Clarke, and his grandparents were Asa and Rebecca (Allen) Clarke. Mr. Clarke taught school in the winter time from the age of 16 to 21, then prepared for the theological seminary at East Windsor, from which he graduated and preached until health failed. He then engaged in farming. He was a member of the legislature four years. He married for his first wife Cressa Judson, in September, 1844, and by her had the following children: Rebecca, Isabella, Josephine J., Andrew T. J., Allen G. and John D. He was married in April, 1870, to Sarah Johnson. Mr. Clarke has been deacon of the Congregational church 34 years.

J. L. Hyde, born in Canterbury, June 12th, 1826, is a son of Nehemiah and Rebecca (Lewis) Hyde, and grandson of Jonathan and Hannah (Bentley) Hyde. He was married March 24th, 1851, to Mary Ann Olin. Their children are: Hannah Adelaide and Frederick Louis.

G. T. Kendall, born in Canterbury, October 30th, 1821, is a son of John and Sarah (Parkhurst) Kendall, and grandson of John and Lois (Palmer) Kendall. Mr. Kendall has held numerous town offices. He attends the Unitarian church of Brooklyn.

Rufus S. Ladd, born in Franklin, Conn., August 17th, 1824, is a son of Festus and Ruby Ladd. His maternal grandparents were Ezekiel Ladd and Ruth Hyde. His paternal grandparents were Abner Ladd and Abigail Perkins. Mr. Ladd was representative in the legislature of 1875. He was married May 27th, 1857, to Jane M. Ladd. Their children were: Elsie D. and William E. Elsie D. died March 14th, 1884, in the 29th year of her age. Jane M. Ladd's grandfather on her father's side was Hazen Ladd, and her grandmother Rhode Smith; on her mother's side Abner Ladd and Sallie Cook.

John McMurray was born in County Ayr, Scotland, September 16th, 1827, and is a son of Gilbert and Janet McMurray. He was married February 11th, 1868, to Sarah M., daughter of

George and Miranda Lyon, and has one daughter, Jennie Faith. Mr. McMurray is a deacon in the Congregational church.

James B. Palmer, son of Asher and Joanna (Ames) Palmer, and grandson of Uriah and Elizabeth (Newton) Palmer, was born in Norwich, Conn., January 17th, 1830, and is a farmer. He represented his town in the legislature and is at present first selectman. He was married in 1854 to Sarah W. Holmes. Their children are: Alice, Alida, Addie, Nellie, Mary, Frankie, Jennie, Libby, Asher P., and William J. Mr. Palmer attends the Congregational church.

Charles L. Ray, born in Voluntown, Conn., in 1826, is a son of Palmer and Annie (Brewster) Ray. He is deacon of the Congregational church of Canterbury Green. He was married January 27th, 1850, to Phebe Eaton.

Edmund Smith, born in Canterbury, November 8th, 1834, is a son of John and grandson of Roger Smith. His mother was Emeline Williams and his grandmother Alice Bingham. His brother John O. Smith was born in Canterbury October 31st, 1840, and is a graduate of the New York Eclectic College. His sister Harriet W., was born in Canterbury July 15th, 1832, and in 1856 married Danforth C. Bugbee. Mr. Smith holds the office of selectman. He was married March 17th, 1863, to Abbie C. Stanton and has one son, Burr S.

Walter Smith, born in Canterbury February 12th, 1811, is a son of Walter and Lydia (Mudge) Smith. His grandfather was John and his great-grandfather Joseph Smith. Mr. Smith has represented his town for three terms in the legislature. He was married in 1835 to Susan Lyon. Their children are: Henry, Helen, Columbus, Mellen W., Elbert and Flora.

Washington Smith, born in Canterbury in January, 1833, is a son of J. B. Smith and grandson of Roger Smith. For thirty-five years he has successfully conducted his business of blacksmith in this place. He married Mary A. Brown in 1856. His children are: George W., born 1858; Mary E., 1860; Charles F., 1863; and Ruth K., 1867.

BROOKLYN.

Lorin S. Atwood, born in Mansfield July 23d, 1812, is one of twelve children of Elisha and Anna (Hartshorn) Atwood. From about 1850 to 1860 he was engaged in the hotel business in Hampton. He then removed to Brooklyn and was a merchant

there till his death in 1888. He married, first, a Miss Cooley, by whom he had three children: Juliette, Arvila and Herman. His second wife was Margaret Bradbent, who had one son—Oscar F.

John M. Baker, son of Almon and Hannah (Tucker) Baker and grandson of John Baker, was born in Brooklyn in 1814, and has followed the business of carriage making through life. He married Sarah French, of Plainfield, daughter of Hezekiah French, February 14th, 1848. Their children are: John F., born in 1849; Edwin, born in 1851; and Jennie, born in 1856, died in 1887.

Henry D. Bassett, son of Joseph Bassett, was born in 1828. About 1852, he succeeded his father in the business of making cloth, which the latter had carried on for twenty years. A year later he changed the business to carding wool and grinding grain. In 1866 he built a new saw mill. Mr. Bassett is one of the most successful business men of Brooklyn. He married Alsada, daughter of Pardon Phillips. Their children are: Edward W., Fannie, Ellen L., George C. (who was killed by being thrown from a load of lumber on his seventeenth birthday, June 28th, 1880), Mary C. and Almira.

Benjamin Brown, born in Brooklyn in 1807, is a son of Benjamin Brown and grandson of John Brown. Benjamin Brown, Sr., married Susanna Cooper, daughter of Nathaniel Cooper, of Rehoboth, Mass., and came to Brooklyn in 1805. He had four children: Susan, Benjamin, Emeline and George. Benjamin Brown in early life was engaged in teaching, and since 1839 has been a farmer. He married Emeline Mason, of Providence. Their children are: George, Frank, Charles (in Providence), Ardelia (married a Pond), Ann (married Joseph K. Potter), John (married Hattie Utley), William and James A., who graduated at Brown University in 1883 and at Newton Theological Seminary in 1886. He is a Baptist minister at Newark, Ohio.

Sanford Chapman was born in Griswold, Conn., and came to Brooklyn in 1850. He is one of eleven children of Joseph and Ruth (Main) Chapman, and grandson of Rufus Main, a soldier of the revolutionary war. Mr. Chapman is a successful farmer. He was married in 1844 to Laura, daughter of Ira Miller, and has six children: Mary, married Alfred Havens; Hattie, Irving, Alice, married Wellington James; Ida and Susie.

Francis Clark was born in Leeds, England, and came to Brooklyn in 1852. He learned the trade of currier, and bought a tannery in Brooklyn in 1853, which business he conducted till his death in 1875. He married Sarah M. Heath in 1841. They had five children: Sarah, Benjamin, Levi, Francis and John.

Henry M. Cleveland, son of Mason Cleveland, was born in Hampton, Conn., in 1827. He was a member of the general assembly in 1867, 1877, and 1882, a member of the state board of education four years, appointed in 1877 a member of special commission to examine insurance companies of Connecticut, and appointed member of commission to revise expenditures of state. He married Mary A., daughter of Jonathan A. Welch, in 1854. They have four children: Louis B., a graduate of Columbia Law School, class of 1876, lawyer at Putnam; Lilly C., married Lieutenant Commander Louis Kingsley of the United States Navy; Mary A., and Henry M. Jr.

Martin W. Crosby was born in Lisbon, Conn., and came to Brooklyn in 1855. The ancestor of the family in this country came from Lancashire to America in the ship "Susan & Ellen" in 1635. Mr. Crosby was appointed deacon of the Congregational church of Brooklyn in 1877, which position he has retained until the present time. He married Abby, daughter of Marvin Dexter, and a descendant in seventh generation from Reverend Gregory Dexter, who came to America and settled at Providence in 1644, and was pastor of the First Baptist church at Providence. They have two children: Henry D., and Mary A.

William H. Cutler, born in Killingly in 1817, is a son of Dan and Amy (Bussey) Cutler, the former a soldier of the war of 1812, and a son of Benjamin Cutler. In early life William H. worked in a cotton mill. He was in the jewelry business in Providence about twenty years, came to Brooklyn in 1865, and has since been a farmer. He has been selectman several years. He married Sarah F. Washburn of Killingly, and they have one son, Charles H., an engineer at Taunton, Mass.

Charles Dorrance was born in Brooklyn in 1824. He is a son of Samuel, and is descended from one of the early settlers of the county. He married, first, Janet Sharp, and second, in 1877, Frances Davis, daughter of Randall Davis. His children are: George, born 1850, lives at St. Paul; Janet C., married John Davenport; Harriet E., married Albert Putnam; Kate, and Fannie G., married John Payne.

Vine R. Franklin was born in Brooklyn January 2d, 1843. He is a son of John and Laura P. (Hammond) Franklin, whose children were Vine, William H. and Annie, and a grandson of William B. Franklin, of Ashford. Mr. Franklin represented Brooklyn in the legislature of 1887, and has held various town offices He married Josephine H. Main, of Brooklyn, and has one daughter, Lucy H., born in 1867.

John Gallup, born in Sterling April 9th, 1807, was a son of David and Nancy (Jacques) Gallup, and descended from John Gallup, who came from England in 1630 and married Christabel, sister of Governor Winthrop. Mr. Gallup was educated at the schools of Brooklyn and Plainfield; was deputy sheriff and sheriff for ten years in early life; was president of the Windham County National Bank twenty years; representative to the legislature twice, once as senator, and was bank commissioner three years. He married Maria C. Tyler, great-granddaughter of General Putnan. Their children were: Henry, superintendent of the Boston & Albany railroad; Ellen M. and Edward, who was assistant general manager of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern railroad, and died in October, 1888, at 46 years of age.

George G. Gilbert was born in Brooklyn October 20th, 1814. He is a son of John W. and Hannah A. Gilbert and great-grandson of John Gilbert, the first of the name in Windham county, who was of the fourth generation from Sir John Gilbert, who came from Devonshire, England, to Massachusetts in 1636. In early life Mr. Gilbert learned the machinist's trade, which he followed eight years, and has since been a farmer. He has been twice married.

Hezekiah Hammond, son of Hezekiah, born December 18th, 1782, married October 1st, 1804, Polly Greenslit, and had three children. She died in 1814. He married Lora Burnett in 1816 and she died in 1817, leaving one child. He married third, Hannah Warren, daughter of John and Hannah (Fuller) Warren, April 22d, 1819. She had four children: Charlotte, Helen, Frances and Lucy. Charlotte, the eldest, born November 16th, 1822, married September 28th, 1847, Gurdon A. Brown, son of Artemas Brown, of Brooklyn, who was educated at the schools of Brooklyn, and engaged in real estate business at Philadelphia, where he died at 32 years of age. Hezekiah Hammond, 2d, brother of Colonel Asahel, was a descendant of Thomas Hammond, of

Suffolk county, England, who married Rose Tripp May 14th, 1573, and whose sons William and Thomas came to America about the year 1630.

Colonel Asahel Hammond was born in Hampton May 10th, 1778, and married December 9th, 1801, Betsey Robinson. He removed to Brooklyn, Conn., in 1842, was a director of the Windham County Bank and president of the Windham County Fire Insurance Company, and colonel of the state militia. He died in 1861, and his wife died in 1865. They had eleven children, of whom Catherine, born May 10th, 1810, married in 1834 C. W. Cain, of Petersburg, Va., who was ensign in the 2d Regiment, United States Dragoons, in the war of 1812, and afterward a merchant in New York city. They had three children: 1. James H., born 1836, received an academical education, enlisted at the commencement of the civil war, was wounded and confined in Libby Prison during the summer of 1864, was first lieutenant 1st Connecticut cavalry; 2. Elizabeth A., born 1838, married in 1866 John W. Hunt, who came from England, was engaged in mercantile business in New York, and died in 1885, leaving three children; 3. Mary C. Cain, born July 14th, 1840, resides at the old homestead at Brooklyn.

Harvey Harris, born in Brooklyn in 1859, is a son of George W. Harris, one of the largest land owners in Windham county, who was a son of Hosea Harris. Harvey Harris was married to Mary Cheney December 25th, 1882.

Erastus Harris was born in Brooklyn in 1815. About the year 1839 he commenced the business of blacksmithing and wagon making. His business increased until he employed fifteen or twenty men. He also carried on farming, and for many years engaged in staging, owning several different lines. In the time of the civil war he was active in the support of the government. He contributed largely to the growth and prosperity of the community, and was kind and charitable to the poor. He married in 1840 Miss Amy Herrick, daughter of Timothy Herrick. They had one daughter, Fannie, who married Charles W. Snow. Mr. Harris died in 1871.

Elias H. Main, son of Gardner, and grandson of Nathaniel Main, was born in Norwich, Conn., in 1808. In early life he was a mason, and afterward engaged in mercantile and real estate business in New York city. He has held various town offices. He married Susannah, daughter of Reverend John G. Dorrance,

a graduate of Brown University, who was a grandson of Reverend Samuel Dorrance, a graduate of the University of Glasgow, who settled in Sterling, Conn. Their children are: Sarah E., Caroline T., George W., Alice P. and John G., who was adjutant in the 6th New York cavalry, and was killed at Cedar Creek, October 19th, 1864.

Enoch Pond was born in 1810, and came to Brooklyn in 1824. He is a son of Enoch, and grandson of Enoch Pond, who came from Wrentham, Mass., to Ashford, Conn., and was pastor of the church there. Mr. Pond learned the trade of cabinet maker, which has been the business of his life. He married Sarah A. Utley, and they have four sons: Theodore D., who enlisted in the 21st Connecticut volunteers and served till close of war, married Delia M. Brown; George E., enlisted in the 21st Regiment, was wounded at the battle of Dury's Bluff, graduated at West Point in 1872, and is a captain in the United States army; Charles F., graduated at Annapolis in 1872, is lieutenant in navy, and John C., an officer at the Connecticut state prison.

Abram Shepard, born in 1806, in Plainfield, was a son of John Shepard, and a descendant in the fourth generation from Isaac Shepard, one of the first settlers of the town of Plainfield. Abram Shepard came to Brooklyn about 1837, and engaged in farming and mercantile business, which he continued till his death, in 1877. He was married in 1828 to Hannah Webb of Sterling. Their children were: Edward, living in California; Mary, married to James Pike; Maria, Duncan, Cameron and Esther A., a school teacher.

Simon Shepard, son of William, and grandson of Simon, was born in Plainfield in 1833, came to Brooklyn in 1866, and is a farmer. He is one of the selectmen of the town, and has held various town offices. He was married in 1857 to Louisa, daughter of John Gardner. Their children are: Martha, married John E. Allen; Nettie, married Benjamin Clark; John, Charles C., Jennie, Morgan and Simon E.

Preston B. Sibley was born in Eastford, Conn., and came to Brooklyn in 1880. He is a son of Samuel Sibley, who came to Windham county from Sutton, Mass., in 1827, and a descendant in the sixth generation from one Sibley, who came from Wales to Massachusetts in 1705. He is a director in the savings bank, and Windham County Insurance Company. He was married in 1862 to Katie Noble, and they have three children.

Joseph B. Stetson, born in Brooklyn, Conn., is a son of James, and a descendant in the eighth generation from Robert Stetson, who settled at Scituate, Mass., in 1634, and a great-grandson of Nathan Witter, who came to Brooklyn from Preston in 1753. Mr. Stetson represented Brooklyn in the legislature of 1880.

B. H. Weaver was born in Plymouth, Vt., in March, 1814. He is a son of Caleb Weaver, who married Betsey Clark, grandson of Benjamin Weaver, who served as a captain in the revolutionary war, and a descendant of Clement Weaver, who lived at Newport, R. I., as early as 1655. Mr. Weaver was in mercantile business in Massachusetts from 1833 to 1855, then removed to New York city, where he continued business till 1861, then came to Brooklyn, Conn., where he has been engaged in farming till the present time. He was married October 19th, 1841, to Sarah J. Gates, and has one son, J. Frank Weaver.

Charles G. Williams was born in Sterling, Conn., is a son of Nathaniel and Hannah Williams, and grandson of Samuel Williams. In early life he taught school, and afterward was a farmer. He married in 1846 Lucy E. Gallup, of Sterling, daughter of John Gallup. His second wife was Ruby G. Burgess, daughter of David Gallup, of Plainfield. He has three children: Mary M., born in 1848; Nathaniel, born in 1850, and John C., born in 1856.

Henry N. Wood was born in South Scituate, R. I., and came to Plainfield, Conn., in 1865. He is a son of Nehemiah and Phila Wood. The family are of English origin. Mr. Wood learned the trade of blacksmith, and has for many years been foreman in that department at the mills of the Wauregan Company. He married in 1848 Mary Saulsbury and has three sons: Nehemiah, Henry and Charles, who married Ida Westcott.

STERLING.

James Bailey came from Wales, settled in West Greenwich, R. I., and had four children. His son Titus, a captain in the revolutionary war, married Mary Fish and settled in Sterling. His son James married Eunice Bailey. They had five children, one of whom was James, who was a soldier in the war of 1812, and married Sabra Swan. They had eight children. The only one in Sterling is Charles H., born in 1832, and married to Ida Gordon. He was a member of the 8th Regiment, Connecticut volunteers.

Jerome Cahoone, born in 1838, enlisted in the Eighteenth Regiment, Connecticut volunteers, in 1862, served in second battle of Bull Run and other engagements, and was killed at the battle of Piedmont June 5th, 1864. He married Ruth Gibson, daughter of Harden Gibson, in 1856. The latter was a son of James Gibson. Mrs. Cahoone has one son, Frank E., born July 21st, 1861.

Benjamin Fenner came from Cranston, R. I., to Sterling about 1801. He married Mary Green, daughter of Colonel Christopher Green, and had nine children. Three of these children settled in Sterling. One of these, Jeremiah, married Elsie Barber and had five children, of whom John married Lydia F. Winsor. They have one son and two daughters. John Fenner has been selectman of Sterling several years and has held other town offices. David Winsor came from Glocester, R. I., to Sterling in 1797 and settled on the place now owned by John Fenner. He married Lydia Angel and had eleven children, one of whom, Ira, married Almira Main. Their children were: Ira C., who was an assistant surgeon in the civil war; Lydia F.; John, a member of the 26th Regiment, Connecticut volunteers, now a physician at Quidnick, R. I., and Emma.

Nathaniel Gallup was born in Sterling and is a farmer. He is a son of Nathaniel Gallup, who was born in 1798, and who was selectman in Sterling twenty-eight years, representative to the general assembly twice, besides holding minor town offices, and who was a son of Benadam Gallup, a soldier of the revolutionary war, and descended from John Gallup, who came to America in 1630, and married Christabel Winthrop. Nathaniel Gallup married Mary E. Mathewson, daughter of Bowen Mathewson, of Voluntown. They have five children: Nettie, Mary, Julia, Avis and George S.

Allen Gibson, son of Campbell Gibson and grandson of James Gibson, was born in 1810 in Sterling, Conn. His mother was Abigail, daughter of Asa Montgomery, the first town clerk of Sterling. Allen Gibson learned the trade of stone cutter, and became widely known as a builder and contractor, building many stone dams and mills in eastern Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. He represented Sterling in the legislature of 1855. His children were: Amanda, Mary M., Oscar F., Lucy J. and Robie. Mary M. married Oliver W. Champlin, who enlisted in the 18th Connecticut volunteers, served three years, and was wounded.

Silas Griffiths, born in Sterling in 1837, is a son of George and Dorcas (Holloway) Griffiths, and grandson of Southward Griffiths, who was a soldier in the revolutionary war and came to Sterling about 1785. He was a son of Amos Griffiths, who came from Wales to Newport about 1750. Silas Griffiths was ordained as pastor of the Baptist church in 1874, and is also engaged in farming and dealing in agricultural supplies and lumber. He married Julia A. Boswell, of Killingly, in 1859, and has two children, Winfield S. and John E. Jared Griffiths, brother of Silas, born in 1826, was prominent in town affairs, enlisted in the 26th Regiment Connecticut volunteers, and died of sickness at New Orleans June 27th, 1863.

David S. Kenyon, born in Sterling, Conn., is a son of John W. Kenyon, one of twelve children, and grandson of Moses Kenyon, the first of the name in Sterling. Mr. Kenyon represented the town in the legislature in 1885 and 1886, and has held many town offices.

John Kinnie, of Voluntown, married Lucy Gallup and had nine children, one of whom, Freelove, married Richard Davis of Griswold. He died in 1882, leaving five children: John R., Albert E., Allen E., Judson, and Mary F., who married Charles E. Young of Voluntown, who died in 1876.

John Knox, son of John Knox, was born in Sterling, Conn., in 1807, and is a successful farmer. He married Caroline, daughter of John Young, a soldier of the war of 1812 and son of Joel Young, of Killingly. They have one son, John Knox, who married Susan, daughter of Philip Winslow, and is a farmer in Sterling.

Asa Potter was of English ancestry and fifth in line of descent from Roger Williams. He was born in Cranston, R. I., May 24th, 1782, married Ruth Stafford in 1803, lived in Providence and Warwick, R. I., until about 1812, when he settled at Thompson, Windham county, removing to Sterling in 1820 and living there till his death. He was one of the most prominent cotton manufacturers of his day, doing business and furnishing employment to many people at what was called the American Factory, which is still standing. His farm consisted of many acres on the Quanduck river, and he had many houses which furnished homes to his employes. His family consisted of ten children, six sons and four daughters. Edwin G. Potter, the youngest of the family, married and went to Hartford, re-

turning to the old homestead, when he came in possession of it in 1851. Here his two children were born and his life passed in peace and quiet until 1883, when he became involved in a lawsuit which became an historic case. Silas Wait and A. A. Stanton came upon a portion of the Potter farm which they claimed was disputed territory, and cut off and carried away an acre of his most valuable timber. Consequently he brought an action of trespass which was fought with a vigor and tenacity rarely equaled. This case, with James H. Potter and Charles E. Searls as counsel for plaintiff, was tried before Judge Stoddard at Brooklyn in May, 1885, before Judge Phelps in November of the same year, and before Judge Andrews in September, 1886, who rejected important evidence which the supreme court in March, 1887, at Hartford, decided was an error, and ordered a new trial before Chief Justice Park at Brooklyn in October, 1887, which resulted in judgment for the plaintiff, and the defendants were compelled to pay damages for cutting his valuable timber.

James L. Young, son of Jeremiah J. Young, was born at Smithfield, R. I., and came to Sterling in 1858. He enlisted in the 21st Regiment Connecticut volunteers, and served three years. He represented his town in the legislature in 1875 and 1876, and was town clerk eight years. He married Maria, daughter of Newman Chaffee.

VOLUNTOWN.

John Bitgood came to Voluntown from Warwick, R. I., about 1800, and lived on the place now occupied by William Bitgood. His son Elisha, born 1801, married Betsey Church, and had ten children, of whom Joel K. enlisted in the 12th Connecticut volunteers, and served three years in the rebellion. He was wounded at Port Hudson. He is one of the selectmen of Voluntown. He married Maggie Tabor, and their children are: Nellie, Gracie, Roscoe and Joseph E.

Moses Fish came from Groton to Voluntown as early as 1745. He married Elizabeth Morgan, and had two sons, Moses and Daniel. Moses married Jerusha Phillips, and had eight children. The eldest, Levi, married Rebecca Fish, and had six children. The eldest son, Levi H. Fish, married Amy Saunders. He was selectman and justice of the peace many years, and died in 1878. His children are: Miss Julia A. Fish, who has been engaged in millinery and dressmaking in Voluntown village

since 1862, and Anna, who married Luther L. Dennison, who served two years in the 1st Connecticut heavy artillery.

Benjamin Gallup, son of Nathaniel, grandson of John, and great-grandson of John, was born in Stonington, and came to Voluntown and settled on the place occupied by the present Benjamin Gallup. He married Amy, daughter of Thomas Kinnie, and had three sons and eleven daughters, of whom one son Benjamin, born in 1774, married Huldah, daughter of Abel Kinnie, and had two children, Amy and Benjamin. He was selectman and justice of the peace many years, and died in 1854. His son Benjamin, born in 1811, married Caroline Kinnie. They have six children: Laura C., Benjamin S., Amy E., E. Byron, Origen S. and Albert. Mr. Gallup represented Voluntown in the legislature in 1849, 1858 and 1871, and has been selectman and justice of the peace many years. He married for his second wife Fidelia Chapman.

Isaac Gallup, of Voluntown, was a great-grandson of John Gallup, who was one of the founders of the church in Voluntown in 1723. Isaac married Olive Parks and had eleven children: John D., Martha, William W., James H., Clarissa H., Ralph P., Noyes B., Charles E., Olive D., Jared A. and Sarah B.; of whom Martha and Jared A. only remain in Voluntown. Jared was a member of the 21st Regiment, Connecticut volunteers, and represented Voluntown in the legislature of 1875.

Henry C. Gardiner was born in South Kingstown, R. I., one of twenty children, three of whom served in the civil war—George, John and Henry. George died in service and Henry was wounded at Fredericksburg. In 1872 Henry came to Voluntown, where he has since resided. He has been selectman for the last four years, also justice of the peace. He married Texanna Green and has one daughter, Etta.

Amos Herrick was born in Griswold, Conn., in 1827, served as a soldier in the Mexican war, and came to Voluntown in 1857, where he engaged in mercantile business, which he continued till his death in 1880.

Nathaniel Tanner came from West Greenwich (where four generations of his ancestors had lived before him) to Voluntown about 1839. He married Hannah Pratt and had three sons: Jason, William W. and Nathaniel. William W. married Phebe Kenyon, and came to Voluntown in 1862. He is a farmer. He has three sons: Luther S., William J. and George A.

Adam and Jane (Hall) Kasson emigrated from Belfast, Ireland, to Boston, with seven sons and two daughters in 1722, and thence came to Voluntown. Adam was a member of the church at its formation in 1723, was chosen deacon in 1731, and died in 1767. Archibald, a grandson of Adam, was a colonel in the revolutionary war, and received a brigadier general's commission at its close. Jonn P. Kasson, grandson of Archibald, born in 1797, was deacon of the church 40 years and its clerk 48 years. He was also county commissioner two years. He married Betsey A. Wylie and had two children: Joseph, who died aged 16, and Elizabeth, who is now clerk and treasurer of the Congregational church.

William H. Kenyon, 2d, born in Plainfield, is a son of John Kenyon and a descendant of Moses Kenyon, the first of the name in Sterling. He learned the trade of weaver and designer. He is married to Mary E. Mague.

James M. Pratt is a descendant of Amasa Pratt, who came to this country in the last century. James married Charlotte Tanner, and is a farmer and skillful mechanic. He has three children: Edward A., who married Phebe Phillips; Hannah, who married Allen Palmer; and Charles W.

George W. Rouse was a member of Company G, 12th Connecticut volunteers, in the rebellion. In 1888 he engaged in the grocery business in the village of Voluntown. He has frequently been elected to town offices.

Ezekiel Sherman was born in Exeter in 1819, and is a son of Robert Sherman, of English ancestry. He married Hannah Saunders. They have twelve children: Abby, Harriet, Hannah, Priscilla, Sarah, Lydia, Lucy, Idella, Robert, Ezekiel, Sanford and Frank.

THOMPSON.

Samuel Adams was born in 1832, in Dudley, Mass., and is a son of Oliver Adams. He came to Wilsonville in 1857 and bought the mercantile business of D. A. Upham, and has continued the same since that time. In 1888 he enlarged the store, and increased the business. He has been postmaster since June, 1881. He was married in August, 1853, to Almira F. Darby. They have three children: Irene, Irving, and Carrie. He is a republican.

Thomas J. Aldrich was born in 1829, in Rhode Island, and came from Rhode Island to Grosvenor Dale in 1873, where he began the manufacture of soft soap, and in 1876 he began the manufacture of a washing powder, which is mostly used in the factories. Under the style of T. J. Aldrich & Co. they still manufacture the washing powder, and also run a grist and saw mill, which they bought in 1883, known as the Sheldon Mill. He was married in 1853 to Fannie E. Battey, and has seven children: Fannie, Ida, George A., Emma, Sarah M., Edith M., and Fred J. George A. is in business with his father. He was married in 1880 to Cora Emerson, and has one daughter.

James R. Alton was born in 1854. He is a son of Thomas Orlando, grandson of John, and great-grandson of Thomas Alton. His mother was A. Jane, daughter of Benjamin and and Silome Alton. Mr. Alton has a farm of 267 acres. He was married in 1880 to Flora Belle Cunningham, and has three daughters: Josephine V., Mary J., and Pearl M. He is a democrat.

Edward G. Arnold, born in 1814 in Woodstock, is a son of James, and grandson of "Major" Moses Arnold, who was drum-major in the revolutionary war. His mother was Hannah Chamberlin. He was a shoemaker for about twenty-five years. Since 1863 he has been a farmer. He was married first in 1835 to Almariah Corbin. They had nine children. He married in 1859 Rachel H. Taft. They had five children. He married for his third wife Ann Eliza Gifford. He married in 1870 Emeline S. Fenn. He is a member of South Woodstock Baptist church, and a member of the Grange P. of H.

James Arnold was born in Glocester, Providence county, R. I., on the 5th of May, 1822. His father, David Arnold, was also a native of that place, and his grandfather, William Arnold, was born in Smithfield, R. I., May 30th, 1750. The latter served in the revolution, and both William and David Arnold were members of the legislature. The family is of English descent. James Arnold received a limited education, and at the age of twenty-one started in business for himself. Until the age of forty-five he lived in his native state, where he held various local offices. For the past twenty-two years he has resided in Thompson, where he owns a fine farm and home. Mr. Arnold has always been a republican in politics, and is a member of the Methodist church. He was married, first, to Abby Ann White, of

Glocester, by whom he had three children: David, Joseph and Daniel, of whom the latter only survives. Mr. Arnold's second wife was Miss Caroline Withey.

William J. Arnold was born in 1823 in East Greenwich, R. I. He is a son of Larned, grandson of Charles, and great-grandson of Israel Arnold. He came to Thompson in 1839, where he was a cotton mill operative. He was overseer from 1841 until 1884, excepting three years, when he was in the war of the rebellion, in Company D, 18th Connecticut volunteers, from July, 1862, to June, 1865. Since 1884 he has been repairing belts for the Grosvenor Dale Manufacturing Co. He was married in 1849 to Almira Upham. They have three children: Hamilton W., Angeline A., and Ransom L., who was born in 1859, and has been station agent at North Grosvenor Dale since May, 1882. He was married in 1881 to Abbie J. Lombard.

Stephen Ballard was born in 1841 in Thompson. He is a son of Winthrop H. and Salome Ballard. He is grandson of Lynde, he a son of Zaccheus Ballard, whose wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Valentine, son of John Valentine, whose wife was Mary, daughter of Samuel Lynde, whose wife was Mary, daughter of Jairus Ballard, who died December, 1697. Mr. Ballard was educated in the schools of Thompson. He taught school some 18 years. He is now a farmer. He has been a member of the school board of Thompson 25 years in succession. He represented the town in the legislature in 1873. He married Sarah D., daughter of William Barber. They had seven children: Newton, Alice, Ella, Laura C., Bertha, Winthrop and one that died. Mr. Ballard is a republican.

Jerome K. Barnes, born in 1834, is the oldest son of John and grandson of Josiah Barnes. His mother was Catharine (Stone) Barnes. Mr. Barnes is a farmer, living on the homestead where his father resided from 1848 until his death. He was for ten years in Boston, came from there in 1878, and has been a farmer since that time. He was married in 1854 to Malinda A. Copeland, and has three children: Hattie M., Lillie A. and Herman J. He is a republican.

Edgar L. Bates was born in 1861, in Dudley, Mass. He is a son of Winsor Bates, who is a brother of Walter Bates of Thompson. His mother is Mary K. (Fay) Bates. He was educated in the schools of Thompson, and took a commercial course in Trenton, N. J. He has been for ten years connected with a

pottery manufacturing house in New Jersey, and for the last few years has been commercial traveler for the firm. He was married in 1883 to Virginia S. Smith. They have two daughters, Helen G. and Alice B. Mr. Bates' father is a farmer, and has been connected with the Methodist Episcopal church of East Thompson for nearly sixty years. He is the father of ten children, of whom five are living.

Ira D. Bates, born December 25th, 1838, in Uxbridge, Mass., is a son of Peter Bates. In 1861 Mr. Bates offered his services to the government, but was thrown out, owing to his size, but finally, in August of the same year, he was taken as musician in Company B, 25th Massachusetts volunteers, and nine months later was promoted to drum major, and served until 1865. Since that time he has been engaged in the mercantile business. He has owned and operated the store at New Boston since 1880. He represented the town in the legislature in 1887, and in 1888 he was state senator. He was married in 1866 to Abbie M. Whittemore. They have two daughters.

Ira J. Bates was born in 1827, in Dudley, Mass. He is a son of Nelson, son of "Captain" Alanson, son of John, son of Jacob Bates. His mother was Lucia Jacobs. Mr. Bates is a farmer. He owns part of the shore of Webster lake, and has several summer cottages, and arrangements for a summer watering place, known as Bates' Grove. He was married in 1849 to Maria Davis, and has nine children: Hezekiah D., Martha J., Emma F., George H., Elmer E., Hattie S., Minnie L., Benjamin E. and Frank E., and one that died. He is a member of Webster Methodist Episcopal church and a republican.

William N. Bates, born in 1852 in Thompson, is a son of Walter, son of William, son of Elijah, son of Jacob Bates. His mother is Mary J., daughter of Thomas Elliott. He was educated in the schools of Thompson. Mr. Bates has been for several years associated with his father in the undertaking business, and a general cabinet and mechanical business, which his father has run at Thompson since 1841. Mr. Bates has been deputy sheriff and constable for about ten years, and has proved himself very efficient. In 1889 he captured and brought to justice a gang of thieves that had been defying the law in this town, and also in Massachusetts and Rhode Island for the past six years. He is a republican, and a member of the Thompson Congregational church. Mr. Bates' father was deputy sheriff twenty-six years prior to 1879.

Lemuel K. Blackmar, born in 1819, is a son of Joseph and grandson of Jacob Blackmar. His mother was Mahala, daughter of Ebenezer Munyan. He went to Providence at the age of sixteen, where he remained eleven years; since that time he has resided in Thompson. He had charge of the grist and saw mill at Grosvenor Dale for sixteen years, beginning November, 1864. He was appointed postmaster at Thompson in August, 1885, and since September of that year has filled that office. He was married in 1846 to Mary M., daughter of Edmund Cooper, of Wickford, R. I., and has three children: Martha (Mrs. John W. Ballard), Lewis E. and Mary E.

Lewis E. Blackmar, born in 1851, is a son of Lemuel K. Blackmar, mentioned above. In 1870 he went to Grosvenor Dale, where he learned the machinist's trade, continuing there until January, 1880, when he took charge of repairs at Mechanicsville mills, where he has been since that time. He was married in 1874 to Ida, daughter of William Cummins. They had one son, William E., who died in infancy. He is a republican, and a member of Quinebaug Lodge, No. 106, F. & A. M.

Joseph Bowdish, son of Nathaniel, was born in Smithfield, R. I., in 1810. He is a farmer, and has lived in Thompson since 1858. He was married in 1834 to Harriet Young, who died in 1855, leaving three children. He married in 1859 Sarah Jacobs. She died in 1887.

James Buckley was born in 1829 in England, and is a son of James Buckley. He came to America in 1848, and in 1850 to Thompson, where he was for several years employed in a cotton mill. Since 1872 he has kept a livery stable and hotel at North Grosvenor Dale. He was married in 1852 to Martha Hawthorn. They have eight children living and have lost one.

Benjamin Bugbee, born in 1814 in Pomfret, is a son of Leonard and Martha (Buck) Bugbee, and grandson of Elijah and Sarah (Bacon) Bugbee. He has lived in Thompson since about 1830. He was for about twenty-five years a shoemaker. He was station agent at Thompson about ten years, and for the past ten years has been a farmer. He was married in 1840 to Betsey Johnson and has one son, George D. He is a democrat, and a member of the Putnam Advent church.

Warren A. Burgess, born in 1842, is a son of Danforth Burgess. He served in the war of the rebellion in Company D,

18th Connecticut volunteers from August, 1862, to May, 1865. He is now a farmer. He was married in 1869 to Ellen M. Copeland and has one daughter, Edith M. He is a member of the G. A. R. Post, of Putnam Lodge, No. 46, F. & A. M., and a republican.

Loren Chaffee, born in 1820, is a son of John, and grandson of Chester Chaffee. His mother was Lydia Elliott. He is a farmer and owns and occupies the homestead of his father. He was married in 1845 to Nancy C. Hall. They have five children: Ellis H., H. Marilla, John F., Emma L. and Lydia A. One died named Frederick. Mrs. Chaffee died in March, 1888. He is a member of the North Grosvenor Dale Methodist Episcopal church.

David Chase, born in Killingly, Conn., in 1848, is a son of Giles Chase mentioned in Killingly. Mr. Chase was educated at the schools of Killingly, and taught one term in that town. He came to Thompson in 1868, and in 1870 began his mercantile career as clerk in Mechanicsville. One year later he went into business for himself, and has been in business in the town continuously since that time. He has been in the store at Mechanicsville since 1874. He has been selectman two terms, and was representative in the legislature in 1881 and 1884. He was married in 1884 to Anna H., daughter of William I. Bartholomew. They have two children—Lillian F. and Julian D. Mr. Chase is a republican.

Fred. R. Child was born in 1856 in Thompson. He is a son of Otis, son of Nathaniel, son of Nathaniel Child. His mother was Elizabeth M. (Rice) Child. He went from Thompson to Webster at the age of eighteen, where he has been engaged in the baking business since that time. In September, 1884, he purchased his present business. The firm is F. R. Child & Co.

Otis N. Clark, born in 1828 in Woodstock, is a son of Lathrop and Lucy (Perrin) Clark. He was a mill operative and farmer in early life, and has been station agent at East Thompson on the N. Y. & N. E. R. R. for twenty years. He has been a local preacher in the Methodist church for twenty-four years. He was married in 1853 to Ardelia Benson, who died in 1862, leaving two children—Joseph B. and Fannie E. He was married in 1864 to Mary A. Wallace. They have four children—Carrie E., Arthur M., Jennie M. and Ethel W. He is a republican.

Frank O. Coman, born in 1853, is a son of John G. and grandson of Stephen Coman. His mother was Diana Tylor. Mr. Coman is a farmer and owns the farm where his father made brick for several years prior to his death in 1877. He was married in 1875 to Anna, daughter of Thomas Smith. They have two children living and have lost three.

Phineas Copeland, born in 1813, is a son of Abner and grandson of Phineas Copeland. His mother was Rebecca, daughter of William Towne. He is a farmer. He was married in 1835 to Emeline Upham, who died in July, 1883. He was married in February, 1886, to Mary L. Brown. He is a republican and a member of North Grosvenor Dale Methodist Episcopal church.

Japheth Corttis was born in 1824 in Thompson. He is a son of Japheth and he a son of Japheth Corttis, son of Francis Corttis. His mother was Clarissa (Comstock) Corttis. He is a farmer and cattle trader. He has been justice about thirty years, assessor and member of board of relief. He represented the town in the legislature one term. He was married in 1848 to Lucy Ann, daughter of James H. Davis. They have three children living: Mary L., E. Herbert and Elmer J. They have lost two boys: Frank and Frederick. Both sons are graduates of Amherst College. Mr. Corttis is a republican.

Albert Converse, born in 1818, is a son of Riel and grandson of Elijah Converse. He is a farmer and owns and occupies the homestead of his father and grandfather at Wilsonville. During Johnson's administration he was instrumental in the establishing of a post office at Wilsonville, and filled the office of postmaster for about eight years. He was married in 1840 to Rebecca T. Kelly, who died in September, 1878, leaving six children: Noel E., Helen M., Alice A., Ann R., Etta and Ada B., all of whom are married. Mr. Converse was married again in 1883 to Ruth A. Battey.

Jesse F. Converse, a son of Hezekiah and grandson of Chester Converse, was born in 1815 in Pomfret, and is a blacksmith by trade. He was in the war of the rebellion from August, 1862, to July, 1865, in Company D, 18th Connecticut volunteers. He was married in May, 1837, to Mercy Prince. She died in 1872, leaving one daughter, Mary E. He was married in 1873 to Mrs. Caroline Joslin, widow of John J. Joslin. He is a republican.

George S. Crosby was born in February, 1844. His father Stephen, was a son of Stephen, and grandson of Stephen

Crosby, who was born in 1734, served in the war of the revolution, and lost his life in the service. Mr. Crosby was in the Thompson Hotel with his father from 1859 until his father's death, in November, 1884. He afterward conducted the hotel until 1886, when he sold it and built him a fine residence near by, and since that time has been a farmer. He is a director in the national bank at Thompson. He was married in 1879 to Mary B., daughter of Joseph D. Jacobs. They have one daughter, Sarah C. Mr. Crosby is a democrat, a member of the Central Congregational church, and clerk and treasurer of the same.

Nicholas Curtis, born in 1838 in Ireland, is a son of Thomas Curtis. Mr Curtis came to this country thirty-five years ago. He is a farmer. He married Mary Mahr, and has three children —Frank, Henry and Lizzie. He is a member of the Catholic church.

Ebor Davis, born in 1814, is a son of Thomas, and grandson of Thomas Davis. His mother was Susan Vinner. He is one of four children—Rebecca (Mrs. William Jacobs), Sarah (deceased), Ellen B. and Ebor. Mr. Davis is a farmer, owns and occupies the homestead of his father and grandfather. He was married in 1841 to Chloe, daughter of James Cudworth. They have had two children—one that died in infancy, and Lucinda, who married Charles Howard. She died, leaving one son, who was drowned, aged 14 years.

Marcus Davis, born in 1830 in Thompson, is the oldest son of George, and grandson of Thomas Davis. His mother was Betsey Grover. He is a shoe cutter by trade, having followed the business for about thirty years. He owns and occupies the homestead farm of his father, and is now a farmer. He was in the war of the rebellion from January, 1864, to June, 1865, in Company F, 11th Connecticut volunteers. He was married in 1851 to Laura M., daughter of Wright Porter. They have four children: Arthur M., Lowell C., Ada A. and Cora M. (Mrs. E. C. Gammage). He is a democrat.

David E. Day, born in 1838 in Thompson, is a son of David, and grandson of "Deacon" Thomas, who was in the war of the revolution. David was a farmer. He married Louisa Cady, daughter of James Cady. They had two children, Louisa E. and David E., who is a farmer and lives on the homestead. The father died in 1873, aged 81 years.

Henry H. Dike.—In 1729 James Narramore came to what is now Thompson, near Brandy hill, and bought 63 acres of land. His daughter Mary, married James Dike in May, 1741, and to James and Mary was given the small farm at the death of Mr. Narramore. James Dike's son Thomas, married in December, 1770, Dorothy Davison. Their son Samuel, married Rachel Davis in 1808. She died, and he married her half sister Mary Davis in 1810. Their son George Dike, was born in February, 1815. He married Hannah Snow of Massachusetts. Mr. Dike died in 1879, having survived his wife seventeen years. His six children were: Samuel W., Henry H., Mary H., Harriet W., Ancel G. (deceased), and Josiah W. The oldest son is a clergyman, and the other two sons, with the two daughters, own and occupy the old homestead. Their 175 acre farm embraces the original 63 acres which has been in the family since 1729.

Horace Eaton, born in 1808 in Plainfield, is the eldest son of Ebenezer and grandson of "Captain" Ebenezer Eaton. He has been for many years a woolen mill operative. He was married in 1836 to Mahala Doty, who died in 1850. They had four children: George (deceased), Gilbert, Horace and Edward. He was married in 1852 to Eleanor Young, who died in 1880. Their two children were Albert (deceased) and Ellen (Mrs. Charles Kelly).

Joseph Egan, son of Thomas Egan, was born in 1835 in Ireland. He came to this country in 1851, and to Mechanicsville in 1861, since which time he has been overseer of finishing in the woolen mill. He was married in 1861, and has nine children. He is a member of West Thompson Catholic church.

Arad U. Elliott, born in 1824, is a son of John W., and grandson of David and Chloe (Wakefield) Elliott. His mother was Sophia, daughter of Chester and Caroline (Walker) Chaffee. He was a farmer until thirty years old, then began carriage making and blacksmithing, which he continues. He has held some of the town offices, and in 1889 represented the town in the legislature. He was married in 1848 to Abigail B. Kelton. She died in 1886, leaving three children—George A., Henry L. and Dyer S., one son having died. Mr. Elliott is a republican, a member of the Masonic order, and also of the Grange.

Francis N. Elliott is a son of Dyer N. Elliott, who was born in 1797, he a son of John and he a son of Francis Elliott. Dyer N. Elliott owns and occupies the farm where he has lived since

1798. He was married in 1825 to Eliza Greene. She died in March, 1884, leaving four children—Ophelia (Mrs. Albert Prince), Francis N., Mary (Mrs. J. Arnold) and Lucy (Mrs. Albert Farrows).

John Elliott, born in 1849 in Thompson, is a son of Marcus A. and grandson of John Elliott. His mother was Sarah C. Ormsbee. He was educated in the schools of Thompson, was fourteen years clerk in the Grosvenor Dale store, and for the last seven years of the time was also bookkeeper. In February, 1882, he came to North Grosvenor Dale, where he has since been a merchant. He has been postmaster since October, 1885. He was married in December, 1879, and has five children. Mr. Elliott is a democrat, and one of the directors in the Thompson Savings Bank.

Luther Elliott, born in 1833 in Thompson, is the eldest son of Loren and grandson of David Elliott. His mother was Caroline Chaffee. He is a carpenter by trade, and has a farm of sixty acres, where he now lives. He was married in 1854 to Mary M., daughter of George Kelton. They have two children—Nancy A. (Mrs. G. Tirrell) and Burton W.

Marcus A. Elliott, born in 1853, is a son of Marcus A. Elliott (mentioned above). He was educated in the schools of the town, and one year in the Woodstock Academy. He has been salesman in the Grosvenor Dale store eight years. Since 1882 he has been clerk and bookkeeper for John Elliott at North Grosvenor Dale, where he is assistant postmaster.

Smith Emerson was born in 1823 in Thompson. His father Orrin, was a son of Willard, and grandson of Simeon Emerson. Mr. Emerson is a farmer, and owns and occupies the residence which his father built in 1834. He was married in 1848 to Orrilla Taft. They have four children living: Defonzo, Ellen, Orrin and Cora, and they have lost four.

Albert Farrows, born in Thompson, June, 1841, is a son of Paine, and grandson of Ebenezer Farrows. His mother was Mary Briggs. He was educated in the schools of Thompson and at Dudley Academy. He is a farmer, but has taught more or less for thirty years. He was married in 1864, to Lucy A., daughter of Dyer N. Elliott, and has one son, Olin D. Mr. Farrows is a republican.

William A. Frederick was born in 1861 in Westford, Mass. He learned the machinist's trade in Westfield, Mass., and in May, 1887, he came to Grosvenor Dale, where he has been master

mechanic for the Grosvenor Dale Manufacturing Company since that time. He was married in 1886 to Clara B. Brayman.

Orton G. Greene was born in 1841 in Oakland county, Mich. He is a son of Johnson and grandson of Ebenezer Greene. He is a carpenter by trade. He was in the war of the rebellion from July, 1861, to November, 1865, in the 5th Michigan Infantry. In 1865 he was married to Harriet O., daughter of Samuel Greene. They have five children: Chauncey A., Benjamin P., Charles G., Harry R. and Cleon M.

Charles K. Griffith, son of Sidney Griffith, was born in 1837 in East Greenwich, R. I., came to Killingly in 1857, where he was engaged as mill operative for many years. He was overseer of spinning in "Himes'" mill (Killingly) for seventeen years. He came to Grosvenor Dale in January, 1888, where he has had charge of spinning. He was in the war of the rebellion from August, 1862, to July, 1865, in Company K, 18th Connecticut volunteers. He was married in 1860 to Ellen Jordan and has one son, Fred. N. He is a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M.

Arthur H. Gulliver was born December 13th, 1856, in Norwich, Conn., and is a son of Doctor Daniel F. Gulliver. He graduated from Norwich Free Academy in 1873, and from Yale College in 1877; was with the Wauregan Manufacturing Company from 1878 to 1886, and in November, 1887, came to Grosvenor Dale, where he has superintended the mill since that time. He was married April 8th, 1885, to Frieda A., daughter of David Emerson. They have one daughter, Edith E. He is a republican.

Daniel E. Hickie, born in 1846 in Boston, is a son of John Hickie. He came to West Thompson from Boston in 1876, and for ten years he was a farmer, having bought a farm of 90 acres. In 1886 he began the baking business, which he has continued since that time, running two wagons on the road.

George B. Howard was born in 1850 in Baltimore, Md., and is a son of George F. Howard. He moved to Norwich from Baltimore when a small boy. He is a mason by trade, but has been engaged in the manufacture of small beer for the past eleven years in the summer season. He was married in 1878 to Ellen M., daughter of Nelson Frink, and has five children: Mabel C., George N., Byron E., Wesley W. and Ethel M. He is a member of the Broadway Congregational church of Norwich, a prohibitionist and a member of the Masonic order.

Thomas Hutchinson, born in 1850 in Plainfield, son of Christopher Hutchinson, came to Grosvenor Dale in 1876, and for eleven years was clerk for H. G. Ransom. In April, 1887, he, in company with John Elliott (firm of Thomas Hutchinson & Co.), bought out Mr. Ransom, and he has carried on a general mercantile business since that time. He was married in 1872 to Sarah Bragg. They have two children—Ida L. and Albert B.

Barton Jacobs was born in 1843 in Thompson. He is a son of Cyril, son of Amasa, son of John, son of Nathaniel, son of Joseph Jacobs. He is a farmer, owning the homestead of his father and grandfather. He was representative in the legislature in 1880, and has been justice since 1876. He was married in 1872 to Lucy M. Jenkins. They have five daughters: Lottie M., Laura E., Lucy J., Louisa A. and Ruth E. Mr. Jacobs is a republican and a member of Putnam Lodge, No. 46, F. & A. M.

Parley Jordan was born in 1793, a son of William Jordan and Comfort Palmer. Mr. Jordan was a natural mechanic, and he was for many years engaged in the manufacture of edged tools, especially axes. He died at his home in New Boston in 1874. He was five times elected to the legislature from Thompson. He was married to Sophia Phelps and had three daughters: Mary P., Frances E. and Ellen L. (Mrs. William Soule). Mr. Jordan was a republican.

George C. Johnson was born February 23d, 1822, in Pomfret. He is the oldest son of William Johnson and grandson of Smith Johnson. His mother was Betsey, daughter of George Cundall. He was in the war of the rebellion, in Company D, 18th Connecticut volunteers, from August, 1862, to June, 1865. He was a shoe manufacturer about twenty years, and since then has been a farmer. He was married in 1842 to Mary A. Wakefield, who died in 1844. He was married in 1850 to Jane Wilkes. They have one son, William S. He is a member of the West Thompson Methodist church, and a member of A. G. Warner Post, No. 54, G. A. R.

Albert E. Jones, born in 1853 in Dudley, Mass., is a son of Ebenezer Jones. In 1873 he began work in the Mechanicsville Mills, and since 1875 he has had charge of the dyeing department. He was married in 1881 to Henrietta J. Baker. They have one daughter, Mabel A. He is a republican and a member of Putnam Lodge, No. 46, F. & A. M.

Welcome B. Joslin was born in 1814 in Thompson. His father, Jesse, was a son of Edward and grandson of Israel Joslin. Mr.

Joslin is a farmer. He has filled the offices of selectman, assessor and justice, and in 1874 he represented the town in the legislature. He was married in 1840 to Ann G., daughter of Hail M. Jacobs. They have three children—Emily, Sarah and Charles A. Mr. Joslin is a member of the East Thompson Baptist church, and a republican.

John W. Kane, born in 1857 in New Jersey, is a son of Bernard Kane. He has been a cotton mill operative eighteen years. He came to North Grosvenor Dale in February, 1888, and since that time has had charge of spinning, spooling and warping for the manufacturing company. He had been overseer of spinning about eight years prior to coming to this place. He was married January 30th, 1880, to Kittie Molloy, and they have two boys—Walter and John.

James N. Kingsbury was born May 24th, 1835, in Webster, Mass. He is a son of Elisha, son of Ephraim, son of Jacob, son of Theodore Kingsbury. Mr. Kingsbury came from Massachusetts to Thompson when about eight years old, returning a few years later, and in Oxford began the business of shoe manufacturing, which he continued for twelve years in Massachusetts. In 1865 he came again to Connecticut, and after being interested in shoe manufacturing for three years, he went into the mercantile business, which he has followed since that time. He was postmaster at Thompson from 1869 to 1885; has been town clerk continuously since 1872; was elected to the house of representatives in 1888; has been chairman of the republican town committee for fourteen years; is vice-president and director of the Thompson Savings Bank and director of the National Bank. He was married in 1858 to Harriet T., daughter of Danforth Kinney. She died in 1884, leaving three children—Charles N., Alice and Myrtie. He was married again in 1885 to Anna, daughter of Joseph Towne.

Joshua P. Knight, born in 1821 in Dudley, Mass., is a son of Doctor Samuel P. Knight and grandson of Deacon Samuel Knight. His mother was Harriet, daughter of Doctor John Elliott Eaton. He received the principal part of his education in the schools of Portland, Maine, and began the practice of dentistry there, but shortly after he established himself at Webster, Mass., where he practiced about twenty-five years. About 1870 he retired from practice on account of ill health, and removed to Thompson, where he now lives. He was married June 15th,

1852, to Mary G., daughter of Lemuel Bixby. They have two children—Hattie E. and Charles L. Mr. Knight has been justice of the peace for several years. He is a republican.

Joseph Alfred Lagace was born August 27th, 1861, in St. Hyacinthe, Canada. He is the eldest son of Charles A. and Sophia (Scott) Legace. He received his classical education at St. Hyacinthe. In 1883 he began the study of medicine in Victoria College, Montreal, and after two years there he continued the study in the medical department of the Vermont University, Burlington, from which he graduated in 1887. The same year he began the practice of his profession at Ware, Mass., and a short time later he removed to North Grosvenor Dale, in the town of Thompson, where he has a large and lucrative practice. He was married in July, 1888, to Phœbe Laporte of Ware, Mass. He is a member of the New England French Medical Association, and a member of North Grosvenor Dale Catholic church.

L. P. Lamoureux was born in 1841 in the province of Quebec, Canada, and came to the States in 1851. He has lived seventeen years in Thompson. He has been contractor and builder for twenty years, and has had charge of nearly all the building that has been done at North Grosvenor Dale since he came here. He has been selectman two years, and has held other town offices as a republican. He was married in 1861 to Mary Garrey. They have eight children living, and have lost three. He is one of the directors of the Thompson Savings Bank, and a member of North Grosvenor Dale Catholic church.

George Law was born in 1844, in Southbridge, Mass., and is the oldest son of George H. Law, of Killingly. In May, 1862, he enlisted in the 9th Rhode Island Infantry for three months. In October, 1862, he enlisted again in the 2d Rhode Island Cavalry, and served until October, 1865. From 1865 to 1870 he was employed as a cotton mill operative, and since that time he has been a farmer. In March, 1887, he came to Thompson from Killingly, having previously bought a farm here. He was married in 1882 to Josephine Ross. They have one son, George E. Mr. Law is a republican.

Thomas McVeigh was born in 1859 in Ireland, and came to Rhode Island at the age of three years. He has been employed in cotton mills since fourteen years of age. He came to Grosvenor Dale in December, 1885, where he has had charge of spinning since that time. He is a member of the Episcopal church of Lonsdale, R. I.

Fred. A. Maryett, born in 1859 in Baltic, is a son of Thomas Maryett. He came to North Grosvenor Dale in 1876 and began to learn the trade of roller covering, and since 1883 he has had charge of the shop for the manufacturing company. He was married in 1881 to Carrie E. Chandler and has one daughter, Lulu J. He is a member of Putnam Lodge, No. 46, F. & A. M.

Horace Mathewson was born in 1841 in Blackstone, Mass., and is a son of Edwin Mathewson. He came to Connecticut in 1851. He was in the war of the rebellion from September, 1862, to July, 1865, as musician. He is a carpenter, having followed that trade for the last twenty years. He was married first in 1867 to Emma L. Joslin, who died in 1869, leaving one son, Horace E. He was married in 1871, but his wife died the same year. He married in 1873 Ellen C. Carrol. They have three children: Edwin, John and Lottie L.

Andrew Mills was born in 1813, and is the youngest son of John, whose father Nathaniel was a son of Nathaniel Mills, who came from Edinburgh, Scotland, with three brothers, to Massachusetts in 1690, and shortly after came to what is now Thompson. The farm which he bought at that time is still owned by Mr. Mills, who devotes most of his time to teaching music, both vocal and instrumental. Mr. Mills' mother was Lucina, daughter of Jesse Whipple, of Killingly, Conn. He was married December 31st, 1839, to Maria, daughter of Hezekiah Perry. They had nine children: Sarah E. (Mrs. L. E. Truesdale), Fitz Henry (deceased), Hezekiah P. (died in the war of the rebellion), Lucina W. (Mrs. John Low), Ossian Everett, John Andrew, Clinton J., Carrie M. and Arthur W. Mr. Mills is a republican and a member of the Congregational church.

George Mills was born in 1832 in Thompson, and is a son of Nathaniel, whose father, Nathaniel, was a son of Nathaniel Mills. Mr. Mills was engaged in mercantile business until about 1868, since which time he has been a farmer, owning and occupying the homestead of his father. He is a democrat.

Joseph Mills was born in 1836 in Thompson. He is a son of Frederick, son of John, son of Nathaniel, son of Nathaniel Mills. His mother is Maria, daughter of James Cady. Mr. Mills is the only survivor of three children. He is a farmer. He was married in 1862 and has three children living: Wilfred J., Augusta M. and Leonard J. They lost two: Etta M. and Grace E. Mr. Mills is a republican.

Calvin M. Munyan, born in 1850 in Killingly, is a son of Irving, and grandson of David Munyan. His mother was Almira (Eddy) Munyan. Mr. Munyan is a farmer. He was married in 1873 to Ella J., daughter of Welcome Bates. They have two children—Florence I. and Claude M.

Helen A. Munyan is a daughter of John, son of Ezra, son of Joseph, son of Edward Munyan. Her mother was Ruth Warfield. John Munyan was born in 1805 and died in 1884. He was a carpenter by trade.

James M. Munyan was born in 1825 in Thompson. He is a son of Hosea, son of Isaac, son of Israel, son of Joseph, son of Edward Munyan, who came from England to Salem, Mass., and about 1718 he came to what is now Thompson, near the Rhode Island line, and bought a farm which is still in the family. Mr. Munyan's mother was Sarah, daughter of Jacob Blackmar, who was a revolutionary soldier. Mr. Munyan is a farmer. He was married in 1856 to Harriet, daughter of John Wakefield. They have four children: Oscar, Sarah A., Clara I. (Mrs. J. A. Armstrong) and Fred. A.

Oscar Munyan was born in 1859 in Thompson, son of James M. Munyan. He was educated at the schools of Thompson, then in Franklin two years, and in the Institute of Technology in Boston one year. He was engaged in mercantile business until 1886, and since that time he has been a farmer on the Munyan homestead, owning about 100 acres of the original purchase of Edward Munyan of 1718. He was married in 1880 to Martha A. Card. He has been several years chairman of the democratic town committee.

George H. Nichols was born in April, 1837. He is a son of Captain George P., he a son of Elijah, and he a son of Elijah Nichols. His mother was Mary, daughter of Thomas Alton. Mr. Nichols is a farmer, occupying the farm where his father lived from about 1800 until his death, in July, 1877, aged 82 years. He and also his father were members of the legislature from Thompson. Mr. Nichols was for many years a cattle buyer. He was representative in the legislature in 1881 and 1883. He is president of the Thompson Savings Bank, and vice-president of the Thompson National Bank. He is also president of the Wauregan Brick Company. He was married in 1857 to Mary A., daughter of James Johnson. Their six children were named: Lucy A., Mary (deceased), George E., Warren F., Earl

P. and John M. His wife died in 1879, and he married in 1887, Martha E., daughter of Jeremiah Olney. He is a republican.

Cornelius O'Leary was born in Ireland, came to America in 1852, and in 1865 to Mechanicsville, and for the past fourteen years he has been boss spinner for the woolen mill. He was married in 1853, and has two children: T. J., who was for a time a member of the Windham county bar, and Mary E.

Jane E. Palmer was born in East Thompson, and was married in 1858 to William H. Palmer. He was in the war of the rebellion in Company I, 15th Massachusetts volunteers, holding the rank of sergeant. He was killed in the battle of the Wilderness. They had two children—William F., who is principal of the Bristol Academy, and Parker H., who died in infancy.

Henry Paradis was born in 1848 in St. Guillaume, Canada. He came to the states in 1867. He was ten years in Baltic as clerk, and then he had charge of a store at North Grosvenor Dale eleven years for J. H. Woisard. In August, 1888, he bought out Mr. Woisard, and continues the business under the style of H. Paradis & Bros. He was married in 1870 to Olivene Fortier. They have thirteen children. He is a member of the North Grosvenor Dale Catholic church.

Simon Parkhurst was born in 1842 in Norwich, Conn. At the age of 18 years he went to Brooklyn, Conn., and began to learn the tinsmith's trade, and later went to Stonington, where he finished his apprenticeship. In 1876 he came from Providence to North Grosvenor Dale, and opened a hardware store and tinsmith shop, which he has continued since that time. He was married in 1876 to Alice L. Peckham, and has three children living, having lost three. He is a republican.

Amoret Perrin is a daughter of Jonathan, son of Jonathan, son of Jonathan, son of Thomas, son of John, son of William Nichols, who was born in 1599, settled in Danvers, Mass., in 1638, and had four children. Her father Jonathan Nichols, was several years town clerk and judge of probate, and was representative in the legislature for nearly twenty years. She was married in April, 1832, to Joseph M. Perrin, son of Noah Perrin. He died in December, 1861. He had been a school teacher in his younger life, but later a farmer and surveyor.

Elijah C. Perrin, born in 1810, is a son of Hezekiah and Betsey Perrin. He is a farmer. He was married in 1842 to Dolly, daughter of Jeremiah Shumway. He is a republican, and a

member of the North Grosvenor Dale Methodist Episcopal church.

Joseph S. Perry, born in 1830 in Bridgewater, Mass., is a son of Joseph S. Perry. He came to Windham county in 1831, where he has since resided. He is a farmer and owns the homestead of David Towne. He was in the war of the rebellion three months in 1861, in Company K, 2d Connecticut volunteers. In August, 1862, he reentered the service in Company I, 16th Connecticut volunteers, serving until May, 1864. He was married in 1854 to Lucy, daughter of George Town. He is a staunch temperance man and a prohibitionist. He is a member of the Thompson Baptist church.

Ebenezer Phelps, born in December, 1808, is a son of Ebenezer and Polly (Russell) Phelps. He was a blacksmith and edge tool maker at New Boston for many years. He was married in 1832 to Mary Ann Ellwell. They have two children—Henry R. and Mary Edna He is a democrat.

George Phillips was born in 1856 in England, came to Connecticut in 1859, and was for seventeen years employed in the cotton mill at Williamsville. Since 1884 he has been overseer of weaving at Grosvenor Dale. He was married in 1877 to Cora Buchanan. She died in 1884, and he was married in 1886 to Alice Tucker. They have one son, George H. He is a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M.

Charles A. Potter, born in 1849 in Southbridge, Mass., is a son of William B. Potter. He was educated in the schools of Southbridge, came to North Grosvenor Dale in 1873, and in 1882 opened a market here, which he has run since that time. He deals in meat, canned goods, fruit, confectionery, etc. He was married in 1870 to Martha H. Chandler and has three children: Alice M., Louva C. and Floyd.

George A. Putney, son of Harvey Putney, was born in 1844 in Southbridge, Mass. He began to work in mills in 1861, came to New Boston in 1865, and two years later took charge of carding and spinning and still fills that place. He was married in 1867 to Sarah, daughter of Danford D. Burgess. They have five children: Olin H., Fitz L., Vesta B., Lena B. and Ala A. Mr. Putney is a republican.

James Randall, son of Daniel Randall, was born in 1828 in Thompson. He is a farmer, living on his father's homestead. He was married in 1849 to Ursula, daughter of Obadiah Ross and granddaughter of Lemuel Ross.

Marcus L. Randall, born in 1823 in Thompson, is a son of Joseph and Nancy Randall. He is a machinist by trade, but for the last seventeen years has been a farmer. He was married in 1841 to Olive Chamberlin, who died in 1881. Their four children are: William, Edgar M., Sylvia and Mary V.

John S. Richardson, born March 31st, 1823, is a son of William and Nancy (Arnold) Richardson, the latter a daughter of Daniel Arnold. Mr. Richardson was a mill operative for about forty years, and was overseer of carding twenty-one years at Perryville. Since 1880 he has been a farmer. He was married in 1845 to Sarah K., daughter of Thomas Benson. They had five children: Estelle, Alice (deceased), Edwin, Ada and Grace. He is a republican and a member of Quinnatisset Grange, No. 65, P. of H.

John T. Richardson, born in 1835 in Massachusetts, is a son of Mowry, and grandson of Joseph Richardson. His mother was Orrilla Thayer. Mr. Richardson is a farmer. He was married to Helen, daughter of Alfred Merrick. They have one son, Fred. I., and one daughter, Louisa A. (deceased). Mr. Richardson is a democrat.

David N. Robbins, born in 1831 in Thompson, is a son of Ithiel, and grandson of John Robbins. His mother was Hannah Green. He is a farmer. He enlisted in Company F, Battery 1st Heavy Artillery, Massachusetts volunteers, and served from August, 1864, to June, 1865. He was married in 1854 to Martha E. Joslin, and has had three children: Edna L., Ida M. and Albro N. Mr. Robbins is a republican, and has been a member of the East Thompson Methodist Episcopal church for forty years.

Ithiel D. Robbins, born in 1853 in Thompson, is a son of Ithiel Robbins, born in 1804, and died in 1883. The latter was the son of John, and he the son of Samuel Robbins. Ithiel married in 1829 Hannah Green, who is now living. They had twelve children, eight living: David Nelson, Elizabeth, Phœbe, John W., Luther D., Julia A., Hannah T. and Ithiel D., who lives on the homestead with his mother.

Allen Monroe Robinson, born in 1829 in Thompson, is a son of Joseph Robinson and brother of Oscar Robinson. He has been for twenty years cutter for a shoe manufacturing establishment. He bought what is called the "Lake View" farm in 1882, and has been a farmer since that time. He was married in 1853 to

Emily A. Vinton. She died in 1868, leaving one child, Clarence I. He was married again in 1869 to Mary M. Gerstle. He is a republican.

Oscar Robinson was born in 1840 in Thompson. He is a son of Joseph, son of Aaron, son of Paul, son of George Robinson. His mother was Mary A. Cutler. He is the youngest of six children. He is a farmer and market gardener, owning and occupying the Robinson homestead. In 1861 he was married to Jane M. Sheldon. He is a republican.

Isaac Sherman, son of Zephaniah Sherman, was born in 1817 in Eastford. His mother was Betsey Alton. Mr. Sherman was a merchant and shoe manufacturer at East Thompson for several years, after which he spent about seventeen years as a Methodist preacher. He retired to East Thompson a short time since. He represented the town in the legislature in 1861. He has been married three times, his present wife being Mary (Sheldon) Sherman. They have three children: Winnie D., Mary B. and Harlo T. He has one son, James, by a former marriage. He is a republican.

Albert Shumway, born in 1831, is a son of Sherman and Huldah (Elliott) Shumway. He is a farmer. He was married April 28th, 1856, to Dolly F. Corbin. She died in August, 1873. He was married in May, 1877, to Fanny K., daughter of David and Harriet (Sumner) Nichols. He is a republican.

Elliott Shumway, born in 1827, is a son of Sherman and grandson of Jeremiah Shumway. His mother was Huldah, daughter of Roger Elliott. Mr. Shumway is a farmer, and owns and occupies the Elliott homestead. He was married in 1873 to Susan F. Crain. He is a republican and a member of Thompson Congregational church.

William T. Shumway, born in Thompson in 1829, is a son of Hammond, and grandson of Jeremiah Shumway. Mr. Shumway went from Thompson to Webster in 1845, as clerk in a store, and three years later began as a merchant, and from 1848 to the present has been in the trade there. He was married in 1851 to Jane E. Keith, and has two daughters.

Warren Spencer, born in 1857, at Grosvenor Dale, is a son of Russel and Laura (Greene) Spencer. He was educated in the district schools of the town, and has been employed by the Grosvenor Dale Manufacturing Company for sixteen years.

For the past eleven years he has been overseer of the cloth room. He was married in May, 1880, to Alice Bixby.

Richard B. Stroud born in 1820, in Stafford, Conn., is the youngest of nine children and the only survivor. His father was Richard, son of Richard and Elizabeth (Billings) Stroud. His mother was Rhoda (Harvey) Stroud. Mr. Stroud came to Thompson in 1868, where he has been a farmer since that time. He was married to Charlotte E. Leech, who died. They had three children, all of whom are deceased. He was married again to Minerva Crawford, who died, leaving two children: Alice L. and Charles C. He married in 1878 his present wife, who is a daughter of Gardiner Rouse. He is a member of Putnam Lodge, No. 46, F. & A. M., and of Quinnatisset Grange, No. 65, P. of H.

Reverend Thomas Tallman, was born June 12th, 1815, in Middle Haddam, Conn. After he graduated from college he was in Yale Theological school from 1837 to 1840. From 1844 to 1861, he was settled over the Congregational church of Scotland, Windham county. From 1861 to 1863, he was settled in Groton. In 1864 he came to Thompson, where he resided until his death in October, 1872. He was married in 1842, to Miss Hazelton, who died in 1860, leaving two children: Susan M. and James H. He married for his second wife, Hannah C. Graves, in 1864. Their two children are Walter and Frances C.

Byron S. Thompson, born in 1845, in Smithfield, R. I., is a son of Hiram Thompson. He was educated in the schools of Smithfield, and a short time at Andover, Mass. Mr. Thompson came from Rhode Island to Thompson in 1864, and after a three years' clerkship at North Grosvenor Dale he went away, returning in 1876 and operating a general store until 1882, when he sold to John Elliott & Co. One year later he bought another store where he has been since that time. He was assessor two terms, and in 1887 he represented the town in the legislature. He was married in 1868 to Mary Copeland. They have three children: Bertha N., Ada P., and Harman A. Mr. Thompson served three months in Company E, 9th Rhode Island volunteers in 1862.

Oscar Tourtellotte, born in 1839 in Thompson, is a son of Joseph, whose father, Isaac, was a son of Abraham Tourtellotte, who was of Huguenot descent. His mother was Amy, daughter of Jesse Joslin. His education was finished in Nichols' Academy, Dudley, Mass. He was brought up a farmer. In October,

1861, he enlisted in Company D, 25th Massachusetts volunteers, and served three years. In the history of the regiment it says: "Mr. T. alone with his rifle captured and took prisoners first lieutenant, sergeant and 24 privates belonging to the 161st N. C. V." He also had two brothers in the war of the rebellion. In 1876 he left his farm and opened a grain store and insurance office at North Grosvenor Dale. He sold the grain business to M. A. Covell, and now carries on the insurance business and does legal writing. He was a member of the legislature in 1865 and 1866, and a member of congress in 1876. He is now first selectman. He has been trial justice since 1868. He was married in February, 1861, to Laura A. Carpenter. They have three sons. He is a republican and trustee and class leader in the Methodist church at North Grosvenor Dale.

Reuben M. Towne, born in 1831, is a son of Sherman, son of Joseph, son of Joseph, son of Joseph Towne, who came to this town in 1733. His mother was Mary Ann E., daughter of Reuben Mathewson. Mr. Towne is a farmer. He was married July 31st, 1888, to Atla A., daughter of John G. Coman.

John Trudeau was born in Canada in 1846, came to the United States in 1854, has been a painter for twenty-two years and has had charge of painting at North Grosvenor Dale for eight years. He was married in 1867 and has one son, Henry. He is a member of the North Grosvenor Dale Catholic church.

Jesse Tucker, son of Samuel P. Tucker, was born December, 1829, in Glocester, R. I. In May, 1846, he came to North Grosvenor Dale (then Masonville) as a mill operative for fifteen years. In 1861 he began the carpenter's trade, which he has followed since that time. He was married in 1850 to Sarah Gilmore. They have had two children: Charles A. and Emily, deceased.

Dyer A. Upham, born in 1824, is the youngest son of Dyer, and grandson of Nehemiah Upham. His mother was Esther, daughter of Daniel Arnold. Mr. Upham was a merchant at Wilsonville about fifteen years prior to 1857. Since that time he has been a farmer and breeder of poultry. He claims to be the originator of the Plymouth Rock breed of fowls, and was the first exhibitor at Worcester in 1867. He represented the town in the legislature in 1862, and has filled many of the town offices as a republican. He was married in 1849 to Lucy Stone. They have three children: Leroy J., Earl H. and Burton S. Mrs. Upham died in 1885.

John J. Vinton, born in 1843 in Woodstock, is a son of Hosea, and grandson of Timothy Vinton. He was a farmer in Woodstock until April, 1885, when he came to Quinebaug, where he has run a meat market since that time. In 1887 he added groceries to his business. He was married in 1863 to Abbie M. Whitney. They have eight children living: Myrtie M., Grace L., William J., Martha U., Carrie D., George W., Frederick M. and Byron F.; and two that died in infancy.

Edwin T. White, born in 1834 in Vermont, was a farmer eight years in Vermont, and in 1869 he came to Thompson, where he lived until his death, in May, 1885. He was a republican in politics, and represented the town in the legislature in 1882, and held some of the town offices. He was married in 1860 to Sarah L., daughter of Winsor Bates. They had two sons—Edwin W. and Elmer Leroy. They lost two daughters—Gertrude I. and Bertha E.

Marcus C. Whitney, born in September, 1851, is a son of Micah Whitney and Elizabeth, a daughter of Winthrop Chandler. He was educated in the schools of Thompson and in Nichols' Academy, Dudley. He is a farmer. He is a member of East Woodstock Congregational church, and a member of Senexet Grange, P. of H.

Thomas Wilbur, son of William Wilbur, was born in 1822 in South Kingstown, R. I. He began as mill operative at Harrisville, R. I., at the age of fifteen, where he remained until 1854, when he came to Grosvenor Dale as overseer of spinning for 10 years; then he came to North Grosvenor Dale, where he was superintendent until 1882, and since that time he has lived practically retired. He represented the town in the legislature in 1883. He was postmaster at North Grosvenor Dale from 1878 to 1885. He is a republican. He was married in 1847 to Sarah, daughter of Wanton Briggs. They have one son, James T.; they lost two children—Leander J., who was a soldier in the war of the rebellion, and Grace.

William R. Williams, born December, 1858, in Woodstock, is a son of Harden and grandson of Arthur Williams. His mother was Sarah Caulkins. In 1886 he opened a general store at West Thompson, where he has continued the business since that time. He was married in May, 1883, to Carrie L., daughter of Hiram M. Jencks, of Dayville. He is a republican.

Alonzo O. Woodard was born in 1834 in Thompson. His father, Daniel, was a son of Comfort and grandson of Jesse Woodard, who married Sarah Starr in 1752. His mother is Amy Gleason. Mr. Woodard has been a farmer for the past twenty years, and was formerly a shoemaker. He has been justice for the last twenty years, and has held several other town offices. He was married in 1860 to Mary J., daughter of Harvey Davis. They have five children: Allen R., Hattie J. (Mrs. J. F. Miller, M. D., of Putnam), Mary F., Ida S. and Edith A. He is a republican and a member of East Thompson Methodist Episcopal church.

PUTNAM.

Rhodes G. Allen was born in Providence, R. I., June 5th, 1819, and is the fifth son of Rhodes G. and Rebecca C. (Bowen) Allen. He received a common school education, learned the machinist's trade at Harrisville, town of Woodstock, in 1836, and remained there till 1846, when he went to Whitingville, Mass., but returned to Putnam in 1847. He engaged in the repairing business at the different mills, and was for twelve years employed by the Morse Mills Company. He then bought a farm, which he has conducted since. His first wife was Lucretia A. Aldrich, by whom he had one child, Lucretia M., who died at the age of 16 years. His second wife was Almira L., daughter of Deacon Elliott Carpenter.

Andrew R. Arnold, born in Warwick, R. I., April 22d, 1810, the eldest son of Philip and Catharine (Searls) Arnold, came with his father to Woodstock, Conn., in 1819. He was a machinist by trade and invented a number of valuable patents. He worked at Providence, R. I., Hartford, Conn., and Newark, N. J., at the latter place being 24 years connected with the Manhattan Fire Arms Company. He came to Putnam in 1883, where he died October 11th, 1884. He married Mary A., daughter of Captain John Steib, of Providence, R. I.

William H. Anderson, born in Brooklyn, N. Y., June 10th, 1845, is the eldest son of Joseph and Sophia (Reynolds) Anderson. Owing to the death of his father when William H. was 11 years old, his mother returned to her native county, Windham, and located at Woodstock, but came to Putnam in 1858. At the age of 14 he was employed in the cotton mills. At the breaking out of the war he enlisted in the 18th Connecticut volunteers for

three years, and was eighteen months in rebel prisons. After the war he engaged in farming, and in 1881 started a tallow rendering establishment in Putnam, reducing the trimmings of beef and pork to tallow and lard, the bones of the animals being ground for chicken feed and fertilizer. He married Cora H. Green, and they have had six children: William H., Cora Lillian, Musa E., Hattie S., Mamie E. and Henrietta D.

The Ballard family in this county is descended from William Ballard, who came to Lynn, Mass., in 1630, and the first ones to locate in Windham county were two brothers, William and Lynde, who were sons of Zaccheus and Elizabeth (Valentine) Ballard. Lynde was born in Oxford, Mass., May 15th, 1774, and died June 7th, 1825. December 4th, 1794, he married Polly Bates, by whom he had seven children: John Bates, died in Colchester, Conn.; Nancy (deceased), married John George, of Thompson; Polly (deceased), married Jacob Tourtellotte; Winthrop Hilton, Valentine and Hamilton, all living in Thompson; and Martha, (deceased), married Frederick Miles, of Thompson. Lynde's second wife was Amy Green, by whom he had four children: Sarah Rebecca, widow of Samuel Spaulding, of Putnam; Salem Lynde, Zaccheus, lives in Thompson, and Elizabeth, wife of Albertus Bruce, of Pomfret. Salem Lynde was born in Thompson May 8th, 1820. His first wife was Freelove Youngs, and his second wife is Harriet Scranton, a native of Woodstock, whom he married July 12th, 1846, and by whom he has four children: John Lynde, born in Woodstock January 19th, 1849, married Sallie Farquhar October 22d, 1873, and has two children, John Hudson and Sumner Salem, and is engaged in the sewing machine business at Wheeling, W. Va.; Emma Luella; Louis S., resides in Worcester, Mass., and Arthur S. W., resides at Putnam.

Marvin Barrett, son of Edward I. Barrett, was born in Woodstock, Conn., May 18th, 1826. At the age of twenty he learned the machinist's trade, which he followed for five years at Harrisville. In 1851 he went to Worcester, Mass., where he remained till 1871. He then engaged in farming in Scotland, and came to Putnam in 1876, where he has since resided. He married first, Susan J. Wheeler; second, Lois L. Morgan, widow of Sanford K. Palmer.

Willis Bowen was born in Rhode Island, January 8th, 1808, and came to Thompson, Conn., in 1848. He married L. Maria Ald-

rich, and had nine children: Francis, resides in Portchester, N. Y.; Lawson O.; Henry B., lives at Taftville, Conn.; Almira, died at the age of 19 years; Eliza, died aged 3 years; Amasa, died aged 2 years; an infant; Martha (deceased), married Smith Hall; and Sarah Maria, lives at Middletown, Conn. Willis Bowen died October 14th, 1876. Lawson O. was born in West Glocester, R. I., June 12th, 1834. He was brought up on a farm, and at the age of twelve was put to work in the mills, which he followed eleven years. He engaged in farming in Thompson in 1856, and removed to Putnam in 1859, where he has since resided, excepting four years in Thompson. He was selectman in 1888. He married Marcia A. Bump, and had three children: One died in infancy; Merritt Olin, resides in New Haven, Conn.; and Walter Allen.

Benjamin Brayton, son of George and Nancy (Randall) Brayton, was born in Johnston, R. I., April 18th, 1811. Owing to the death of his father, his mother removed to what is now Putnam in 1815. He was a boot maker by trade, but in his later years carried on farming. He died August 3d, 1886. He married Almira, daughter of Oliver Torrey, and had one child, Caroline M., who married Joseph Waterman Fisher, son of Willard Danielson and Olive (Brayton) Fisher, born in Killingly July 16th, 1848.

Elijah Carpenter, son of Elijah and Abby Carpenter, was born in Smithfield, R. I., and came to Putnam in 1851, where he died March 30th, 1869. He married Mary Ann Green and had three children: Abby J., wife of H. O. Preston, of Putnam; Adelbert, resides in Putnam; and Walter S., born in Greenville, R. I., August 24th, 1848, married Mary S. Ballou, and has no children. He was a member of the legislature of 1889-90.

Nelson Carpenter, born in Smithfied, R. I., May 1st, 1809, is the eldest son of family of twelve children of Elijah and Abby Carpenter. He is a mason by trade, and came to Putnam in 1859. He has been married four times. His first wife was Mercy N. Brayton, by whom he had four children: Mary Jane died aged 20 years; Emeline married William Phelps of Putnam; Nancy Maria, married; and Nelson, died in infancy.

David Chandler was a resident of Pomfret, Conn., and had a son Silas, who had a son, Charles C., who married Anna Cleveland, and had six children: Hannah, married Jason W. Fairfield; Mary, died aged 20 years; Lucius L., Louisa, widow, resides in Illinois; Palmer, died in Pomfret, Conn., and Albert C., lives in

Woodstock. Lucius L., born in Pomfret, August 5th, 1809, married Louisa R. Clark. They have one child living, Louise, wife of William Moulton of Boston, who was born in Pomfret, Conn., April 10th, 1834, and is the noted authoress. Lucius L. died October 25th, 1879.

Danforth Chase, son of Cromwell, was born in Killingly, Conn., August 13th, 1831, married Ellen Payson, and had two children: William D. and Ellen, deceased, married George Dresser of Putnam. Danforth Chase died August 13th, 1866. William D. was born in Killingly February 10th, 1861, married Mary Buck, and has four children: Ellen S., Abbie L., Ida M. and Mary A. Mr. Chase is a farmer and came to Putnam to reside in 1888.

Albert A. Clark was born in Lyme (now North Lyme), Conn., February 15th, 1835. He is the eldest son in a family of eleven children of John G. and Jane (Tucker) Clark. He is a carpenter by trade. He worked nine years in Salem, Conn., then became a member of the 18th Connecticut volunteers. After the war he worked at his trade in Bosworth, Conn., and came to Putnam in the spring of 1874, where he followed his trade four years. Since then he has had charge of the poor houses of Thompson and Putnam, eight years in the former place and the balance of the time the latter. He married Alice P. Brown of Montville, Conn., and has three children: Annie L., wife of Delbert Fairfield, of New Haven, Conn.; Rachel E., wife of M. O. Bowen, of New Haven, Conn., and George A.

John D. Converse was born in Thompson, December 16th, 1845, and is the third son of Alfred and Eliza (Hutchins) Converse. His grandfather was John D. He was educated at Thompson Academy, and has always been a farmer. He was county commissioner from 1880 to 1886, and member of legislature from Thompson in 1878. He married Caroline Sumner of Thompson, and has no children.

Artemas H. Corbin, eldest son of Jedediah and Hannah Corbin, was born in Charlton, Mass., January 24th, 1831. He worked at farming until he came to Thompson, in the winter of 1849. He learned shoemaking, which he has since followed. He came to Putnam in 1853, and worked at his trade till 1865, and then engaged in manufacturing shoes himself, which he followed till 1881, when he engaged in the manufacture of women and misses' slippers and buskins, also woolen lined shoes for women. He served as selectman in 1889.

Ebenezer Covell had the following family: Sampson, Ziba, Oliver, Joseph, Benjamin and Abigail, who married Silas Tucker. Sampson had a son Arba, who married for his first wife a Burgess, by whom he had two children, viz., Sampson and Mary, who married Waldo Bartlett. Sampson (son of Sampson) was born in Killingly, in February, 1809, and married Lillis Bartlett for his first wife, by whom he had one child Arba, who resides in Killingly. His second wife was Lois Elliott, by whom he had one child, Albigence E. His third wife was Sarah Elliott, by whom he had four children: Benjamin, resides in Webster, Mass.; Louisa, wife of David Clark of Putnam; Esther, wife of George Locke of Putnam, and Elizabeth, wife of Rufus Chase of Killingly. He became a resident of Putnam in 1859, where he died in January, 1882. Albigence E. (son of Sampson), born February 26th, 1841, married Mahala J. Chase, and had four children: Elizabeth, died aged five years; Marcus, lives in Thompson; Horace E. and Willis. Mr. Covell has been a resident of Putnam since 1860.

Asa Cutler, the son of Isaac, married Mary Cady, and among his children were: Lodema, Sarah, Hannah, Mary, Benjamin, Asa and David. Benjamin (son of Asa) married Olive Buck, and his children were: Lodema, married William Barstow of Killingly; Asa; Olive, married Davis Torrey of Killingly; Dan; Mary, died young; George, died at Southbridge, Mass.; Sarah, married George Bartlett of Webster, Mass.; and Mary, married Joseph Robinson of Thompson. Dan, born October 26th, 1793, married Amy Bussey of Rhode Island, and their children were: William Henry, lives in Killingly; Caroline Maria (deceased), married Daniel Harris of Rhode Island; Lucretia Dexter, wife of Francis N. Aldrich of Stanton, Iowa; Benjamin and Horace Adams, both died in Killingly; Augustus, killed in the late war; Frederick; Mary Olive, widow of Elisha Davison, resides in Putnam; and Amy Ann, wife of William H. Sharpe of Putnam. Dan died July 10th, 1881. Frederick (son of Dan) born in Killingly, August 25th, 1829, married Georgiana Stead, and has eight children: Edward R., Dan, George M., Ira, Lizzie, Arthur, Alice B. and Minnie F. Asa (son of Benjamin), born in Killingly, June 8th, 1788, married Sarah Torrey, and had five children: Lucy T., wife of Horace Read of Putnam; Hobart C., died in Putnam; Tama, widow of Doctor Plimpton, resides in Putnam; Edward Adams, resides in Providence, R. I.; and Susan Davison, widow of Day Harris, lives at Putnam. Asa was en-

gaged in cotton manufacturing at Oxford, Mass., but returned to Putnam in 1847, where he died March 7th, 1859.

Joseph W. Cutler, eldest son of Job H. and Mary E. (Willey) Cutler, was born in Central Village, Conn., February 5th, 1841. At the age of 22 years he was appointed deputy sheriff, which office he filled for nine years. He was engaged in farming for the next three years, came to Putnam in 1875, and in 1879 engaged in the wholesale and retail wood and coal business, which he now follows. He was selectman in the town of Plainfield two years, also constable. He married Mary, daughter of Elisha Buck, and has one daughter, Annie G.

The Dresser family was originally settled in Roxbury, Mass., in January, 1639, by John Dresser, who had a family of six children, the eldest of whom was John, who married Martha Thorld. He had a family of eight children, and Jonathan, his second son, was born in January, 1673 or 1674. He had seven children, of whom Thomas, born November 7th, 1704, and who married Mary Chandler, of Andover, Mass., was the first one of the name to come to Windham county. He had a family of eight children, and his son Nathan, born January 12th, 1738, married Orindia Sessions and had the following family: Thomas, died at the age of 21 years; Nathan, died in Pomfret; Mary, Abel, Elfreyda, Huldah, Serena, Esther, Jonathan, died in Homer, N. Y.; Comfort, died in Vermont, and Orindia. Nathan died February 3d, 1805. Abel (son of Nathan) was born January 26th, 1775, and died October 27th, 1859. He married Sally Brown and their children were: Horace, died in New York state; Emily, died unmarried; Joseph A., died in Monson, Mass; Sally, deceased, married John W. Adams, of Pomfret; Nancy, deceased, married Hiram Waldo, of Canterbury, Conn; Abel and Ezra, born April 14th, 1817, married three times, to Marcia Carpenter, Ellen Payson and Jennie Dodge. He has one child by his first wife, Frances, widow of John Harrington, who resides with him and has one child, Myrtie.

Lucius Fitts, second son of Daniel and Abigail Fitts, was born in Pomfret, Conn., June 28th, 1810. His father was a tanner, currier and shoemaker. On coming of age he engaged in farming in his native town, which he followed till 1875, when he removed to Putnam. He married Adaline S., daughter of Ephraim Tucker.

Shrimpton Gallup, fourth son of Martin and Ruth Gallup, was born in Brooklyn, Conn., February 14th, 1818. At the age of eight he commenced working in the factory, which he followed until the breaking out of the war, when he enlisted in the 18th Connecticut volunteers, and was mustered out of the service May 4th, 1865, having lost his left leg at the battle of Piedmont, Va. He has been a resident of Putnam since 1828. His first wife was Amanda Brown, by whom he had one child, Andrew, a soldier in the late war. His second wife was Hannah Aldrich.

John H. Gardner, second son of Horace and Eliza C. (Annis) Gardner, was born in Manchester, Conn., November 25th, 1837. At the age of five his parents removed to Stafford Springs, where he received a common school education. At the age of sixteen he entered a general store, where he remained two years, then went to Hartford and was engaged in the dry goods business for fourteen years. In January, 1869, he came to Putnam and opened a dry goods store on the east side of the railroad, being the only store at that time in that side of the village. He sold out in January, 1879, and retired from active business. He was elected president of the Putnam Savings Bank in July, 1880, and has been director of the First National Bank since 1877. He married Mary Wadsworth.

Augustus Houghton, second son of Abel and Lucretia (Phelps) Houghton, was born in Princeton, Worcester county, Mass., November 18th, 1822. He received a common school education. His father was a farmer, and he passed his life till the age of 12 years on the farm. At that age he entered a cotton factory in West Boylston, Mass., and at the age of eighteen he engaged in business for himself at Holden, Mass. He was at this point three years, and for the next four years with the Smithville Manufacturing Company. The next seventeen years he was superintendent of an envelope factory at Worcester, Mass. He then came to East Putnam and was till 1882 engaged in manufacturing yarn. His first wife was Eliza Roper, of Princeton, who bore him one child, Cora, wife of Albert Whiting, of Smithville, Mass. He second wife was Elizabeth Hawkins, by whom he has had two children—Alexander A. and Addie E., wife of Dewitt C. Parks, of Putnam.

Richard Monroe Hoyle, son of Richard and Hannah (Standish) Hoyle, was born in Thompson, Conn., June 27th, 1844. At the age of 16 years he enlisted in the 15th Massachusetts volunteers.

He was wounded four times while in the service. After the war he engaged in mercantile business till 1883. Since that time he has been engaged in farming. He built the Hoyle Block in Putnam in 1877. His wife's maiden name was Inez Carpenter.

Andrew Leavens, son of Joseph, son of Joseph, was born in Killingly February 11th, 1771, and died June 28th, 1847. He married Elizabeth Davis and had seven children. The only one of these living is Andrew K., born in Killingly July 16th, 1819, married Lois Holmes, daughter of Samuel Holden Torrey. They have no children.

William H. Letters, third son of John and Charlotte Letters, was born in Warren, Mass., December 5th, 1842. He was engaged in the manufacturing business from 1864 to 1871 in Stafford, Conn. In the latter year he came to Putnam and opened a store for the sale of musical instruments and sewing machines. His present brick store, which is 20 by 75 feet, was completed in 1881. In December, 1886, his son, Frank G., became a member of the firm, under the name of Wm. H. Letters & Son. He is married to Emeline R. Skinner. His children are: Frank G., born in Monson, Mass., March 13th, 1865, and Charles M., born in Putnam May 14th, 1872.

Edward Mullan was born in Belfast, county Antrim, Ireland, October 26th, 1854, and came to America with his parents in 1860, they settling in Thompson, Conn. He attended the common school, also a private school in Putnam. At the age of twenty he engaged in the general store business in Putnam, which he has since conducted. He has held various town offices, was member of the board of selectmen in 1880-81, justice of the peace and registrar of voters. He was appointed postmaster July 18th, 1885. He married Eliza, daughter of Michael Sherlock, and has two daughters—Anna and Gertrude.

Danforth K. Olney, born in Ashford, December 17th, 1830, is the eldest son in a family of eight children of Thomas J. and Mary (Marcy) Olney. In his early life he engaged in shoe making, but at the age of seventeen went into mercantile business at Fiskdale, Mass. He afterward went to Brookdale, Mass., and finally located at Southbridge, Mass., in the grocery business, being a member of the firm of Edwards & Olney. This firm subsequently dissolved, and he engaged in a general store trade, the firm being Comstock & Olney. Suffering loss by fire, he severed his connection with mercantile business, and was for

three years assistant United States assessor. After this he was general agent for three years for a gas machine company in New York. He then for two years was in the hotel business in Springfield, Mass. In 1879 he came to Putnam, and for the next year and a half was landlord of the Commercial House, and from that time until his death, November 1st, 1886, he was proprietor and manager of the Bugbee House. He married March 7th, 1854, Lucy M., daughter of Wright and Clarissa Woodward, and had one child, Clara Belle. He was a member of the 45th Massachusetts volunteers during the war.

The Perrin Family.—The first settler of this family in this country was from England, and spelled his name as follows: John Perryn. He was born in 1614 and came to America in 1635, settling at Braintree, Mass. He had five children: Mary, John, Hannah, Abraham and Mary. John, his son, who died at Roxbury, had ten children, of whom Samuel, the second son, was born March 10th, 1671, and died in Woodstock, Conn., March 10th, 1743. He had seven children, his eldest son, Samuel, being born March 13th, 1697, married Dorothy Morris, and died in Pomfret, Conn., December 6th, 1765. He had ten children: Samuel, Lucy, died at 10 years of age; Hezekiah, died aged 38 years; Jedidiah, died in the West Indies; Dorothy, married Benjamin Leavens; Prudence, died aged 3 years; Chloe, Hannah and Abraham, all died single, and Daniel, died in Thompson. Samuel, son of Samuel, born August 20th, 1725, was a lieutenant in the revolutionary war, married Margaret Hyde, and had eight children: Willard, killed in the revolutionary war; Sarah, married L. Bartholomew; Hannah, died 2 years of age; Hannah, died young; Silence; Noah, died in Putnam; Lucy, married William Gary and emigrated to Illinois, where she died; and Jedidiah, born February 28th, 1775, and died February 25th, 1856. Jedidiah married Diana Aldrich and had the following family: Huldah, married Lemuel Holmes; Caroline, married Pitt Holmes; Abraham, died in infancy; Lora Ann, died single; Diana, married Pitt Holmes; Abraham, died single; Lucia, the only survivor, resides in Putnam; and Jedidiah, died without issue.

Sylvanus Perry was an officer in the revolutionary army and lived in Killingly. He was twice married, and had the following family: George, died West; Anson; Sylvanus, died in New York state; Abby, married an Ormsby; Rebecca, married George Wadsworth, and died in Wisconsin; and Desire, died in Kil-

lingly. Anson, son of Sylvanus, was born October 5th, 1770, married Abalena Buck, and had ten children: Otis, died in Killingly; Charlotte (deceased), married John Truesdale, of Killingly; Ann (deceased), married Jason Wakefield, of Thompson; Lucy (deceased), married, 1st, Joseph Perry, 2d, George Chaffee; Rebecca (deceased), married Penuel May, of Woodstock; Keziah (deceased), married James Youngs, of Putnam; George; David B., lives in Illinois; Sylvanus, lives in New York state; and William, lives in Illinois. George, son of Anson, was born in Killingly, September 30th, 1809, married Eliza W. Buck, and had eight children: Elisha F., resides at Worcester, Mass.; Mary E., wife of John D. Wells, of Providence, R. I.; Caroline D., wife of Francis B. Chaffee, of Woodstock; Martha A., wife of Elisha Rogers, of Montville, Conn.; James E., resides in Putnam; John H., lives in Killingly; Angie and Morrison.

James Perry came from Lebanon, Conn., married Lucy Perry, and had four children: Anson, lives in Putnam; Joseph, lives in Thompson; William S., and Lucy A. (deceased), married Elijah Ormsbee, of Providence, R. I. William S. was born in Bridgewater, Mass., October 16th, 1826, married Annie Ames, and had five children: William Francis, died aged 12 years; Eugenie, resides in Canterbury, Conn.; Charles, resides in Dakota; Mary Ann, died aged 25 years; and Ernest Leroy. William S. is a blacksmith by trade, and was a member of Company A, 6th Connecticut volunteers, in service three years and one month. He was wounded at the charge of Fort Wagner.

George A. Pettis was born in Coventry, R. I., July 21st, 1835. His father, Welcome, was born in Coventry, February 22d, 1815, married Celinda Rouse, and had three children: Isaac A., died in Amherst, Mass.; George A., and Mary L., wife of R. A. Turner, of Newark, N. J. He came to Putnam in 1836, where he died October 3d, 1863. George A. married Harriet Hall, and their children are: G. Albert, Jr., born in Putnam, December 22d, 1859, married Ida M. Harris, has one child, Sybil, and resides in Putnam; Elmer E., resides in Putnam; and Nellie E., wife of Loren Stockwell, of Douglass, Mass.

George E. Shaw, eldest son of George W. and Abbie (Carpenter) Shaw, was born in Thompson, Conn., January 20th, 1851. He received a common and high school education. At the age of fifteen he came to Putnam and engaged in the jewelry business with his uncle Edward Shaw. At the death of

his uncle in 1876 he became a member of the firm under the style of George E. Shaw & Co. He married Nellie S., daughter of the late Dwight Sharpe, of Pomfret, and has one daughter, Ruth E.

Dutee Smith, second son of Seneca and Nancy (Hunt) Smith, was born in Burrillville, R. I., March 13th, 1825. At the age of twenty he went to Douglass, Mass., where he was employed for fifteen years by the Douglass Axe Co. He came to Putnam in 1864 and engaged in butchering, which he followed a number of years; then owning the Elm Street House, he ran a hotel till 1887. His first wife was Eliza J. Dudley, and his second wife, Maggie Small. His children by his first wife are Luella and Clara, both married and residents of Boston. By his second wife he has two sons, Luther G. and D. Roy, both residents of Putnam.

Frank S. Streeter, only child of Hiram B. and Persis S. Streeter, was born in Southbridge, Mass., March 5th, 1846. He has always been a farmer. He came to Pomfret in 1871 and to Putnam in 1880. He has been twice married, first to Mary A. Sherman, and second to Ruth R. Maynard. He has one child, Ethel May, by his second wife.

James B. Tatem, second son of Henry and Abbie Ann (King) Tatem, was born in Phenix, R. I., April 9th, 1836. When he was six years old his parents moved to Charlton, Mass., from there to Brookfield, afterward to Southbridge, Mass, and became residents of Woodstock in 1850. His father's death occurring when the son was fourteen, he was unable to complete his education, and engaged in shoemaking, which, with farming, he carried on till 1868, when he commenced wood turning, producing handles of every description, carriage poles, whiffletrees, etc. In 1887 he admitted his son John Nelson as partner under the firm name of J. B. Tatem & Son. The latter manages the business at the factory, but the office, which is connected by telephone with the works, has been located in Putnam since 1886, the senior partner having resided there since that date. Mr. Tatem has held several town offices in Woodstock, was deputy sheriff for ten years, member of the legislature of 1878, state senator from the 16th District in 1885 and 1886. In May, 1886, he was appointed state dairy commissioner for two years by Governor Henry B. Harrison, and was reappointed by Governor Phineas Lounsbury. He married for his first wife, Mary

C., daughter of Silas P. Allen, of Woodstock. She had two sons—John Melvin and Henry A. He was married again to Angie S., daughter of Eli Kenyon, of Woodstock, and by her has two children—Mary Eaton and James Garfield.

Thomas Jones Thurber is a son of Henry Thurber and Mary Hope Jones, his wife, who came to Putnam in 1846 with seven children: Julia Hope, married J. S. Jackson, of New York, and died there in 1888; Henry Clarence, died in Putnam in 1851; Frances A., married E. S. Bugbee, of Woodstock, and lives in Putnam; Thomas Jones; Joseph Harris, lives in New York; Sarah Allen, died in Putnam in 1852, and Emma Louise, married J. E. Taylor, of Woodstock, Conn., now of Worcester, Mass.

Doctor Samuel Holden Torrey was the son of Reverend Doctor Joseph Torrey and was born in South Kingstown, R. I., and practiced medicine in that town and Killingly, Conn., where he died December 1st, 1786, at the age of 48 years. He married Anna Gould, of Branford, Conn., and had eight sons: Samuel Holden, emigrated to Rushville, N. Y., where he died; Oliver, died in infancy; William Gould, Joseph, died in infancy; Joseph, died aged 17 years; Oliver and Augustus, became physicians, and Erastus, went to Windsor, Vt. William Gould, son of Samuel Holden, was a farmer and was born in Killingly, Conn., June 1st, 1766. He was twice married—first to Sarah Cutler, second to Lois Holmes. He had but one son, Samuel Holden. William Gould died September 9th, 1849. Samuel Holden was born in Killingly, April 6th, 1796. He was a farmer and was married March 5th, 1828, to Rhoda Smith. They had but one child, Lois Holmes, wife of Andrew Knight Leavens, of Putnam. Oliver, son of Reverend Doctor Joseph Torrey, was born in South Kingstown, R. I., March 24th, 1756, and died March 7th, 1843. He married September 23d, 1784, Tama, daughter of Daniel Davis, one of the pioneers of Ohio in 1788. They had twelve children: Elizabeth, married Rufus Davison, of Killingly; Daniel D., Sarah, married Asa Cutler; Lucy, died single; Susan D., married Jeremiah Dana, of Oxford, Mass.; George, died single; Sophia, died single; Hannah B., died single; Mary, married James Howe; Elvira, died unmarried; and Almira, married Benjamin Brayton, of Putnam, and is the only one living at the present time. Daniel Davis, son of Oliver, born February 20th, 1788, married Olive Cutler and had five children: Erastus, Joseph W., died in Putnam; Mary C. and Rebecca L., died young, and Walter D.,

died in Manchester, Conn. Daniel Davis married for his second wife Susan Bishop, her mother being a Torrey. They had one child, Daniel D., who died at the age of 17 years. His third wife was Mrs. Eliza Davis, by whom he had one child, Abigail, who married Moses B. H. Bishop. Daniel D. died October 20th, 1860. Erastus, son of Daniel Davis, was born in Killingly, June 28th, 1814, married Sybil Alton and had three children: Charles Davis, George Louis, died in infancy, and Olive E., wife of Silas L. Babbitt, of Putnam. Erastus died December 23d, 1885. Charles Davis, son of Erastus, born in Pomfret, March 8th, 1840, married Martha W. Warren and had five children: Charles Louis, Martha Louise, wife of Irving P. Spencer; Ernest Ellsworth, Olin W. and Corrina J., died in infancy. Charles Davis was engaged in mercantile business in Killingly, and is now a farmer in Putnam. He is located on a farm that has been in the family since 1713. He was a member of the house of representatives in 1886-87.

Jerome Tourtelotte, eldest son of Joseph D. and Dinah (Munyan) Tourtelotte, was born in Thompson, Conn., June 10th, 1837. His father being a farmer he spent his early life on a farm. At the age of sixteen he learned the shoemaker's trade, but at the breaking out of the war he enlisted in Company A, 2d Regiment of Connecticut Infantry for three months as a private May 7th, 1861. At the expiration of his term of enlistment he returned to Putnam and raised a company which became Company K, 7th Regiment of Connecticut Infantry, was commissioned September 2d, 1861, first lieutenant, and was made captain February 21st, 1862. He was severely wounded at Fort Wagner, July 11th, 1863, and taken prisoner. He spent twenty months in rebel prisons, principally at Columbia, S. C., was exchanged March 1st, 1865, and commissioned major March 21st, 1865, and lieutenant-colonel July 24th, 1865, and mustered out of service August 12th, 1865. After the war he returned to Putnam, but from March, 1866, to July, 1873, was employed by the A. & W. Sprague Manufacturing Company at Cranston, R. I., in the position of outside superintendent. He then returned to Putnam and engaged in the manufacture of slippers, which he followed till March, 1880, when he was elected treasurer of the Putnam Savings Bank, which position he now fills. He was a member of the Connecticut house of representatives in 1875 and 1880. He married in November, 1874, Emily E., daughter of Edward

Husband, of North Adams, Mass., and has three boys: Leroy, Arthur and Harry.

Matthias W. Wagner was born in Germany, October 15th, 1827. At the age of sixteen, with his elder brother John, he came to America, landing at Quebec, Canada, where he remained for a short time, then went to Albany, N. Y. He was apprenticed to the tailoring trade in the old country, and worked as journeyman in various towns in New England, and finally located at Southbridge, Mass., where he went into business for himself. He was also in business at Hudson, Mass. He came to Putnam in 1868, and carried on the retail ready made and custom made clothing business till 1875. Since that time he has been engaged in building and buying and selling real estate. He married Louisa Collars, by whom he had three children: Henry Edward, died aged 16 years; Emma E., wife of George S. Bradley, of West Haven, Conn., and Charles Philip.

Edgar Mason Wheaton, eldest son of Angell and Mary Ann (Williams) Wheaton, was born in Pomfret, Conn., April 28th, 1851. His father's two eldest brothers went to Illinois in an early day, settling about twenty-five miles from Chicago, the place where they located being named Wheaton. A college was formed there, called Wheaton College, and our subject graduated from that college. He returned to Putnam in 1872, and engaged in building, and in 1880 erected his present shop and commenced to manufacture sashes, doors and blinds. He has built many dwelling houses and business blocks in Putnam. His residence is on the top of Oak hill, and he has laid out an addition to the village of Putnam, located between Grove, Chapman, South Main and Center streets, consisting of 54 building lots, streets having been graded. The property was formerly known as Davis' Grove, afterward as Bradley's Grove, and subsequently Mechanics' Park. In his shop he employs thirty-five hands, uses a twenty horse power engine, and does planing and sawing of every description. He married Charity, daughter of Timothy Jayne, a native of Illinois, and has the following children: Mary, Frank, Walter, Henry, Willie and Raymond.

Horatio Whipple, second son of Bela and Mehitable (Grant) Whipple, was born in Cumberland, R. I., January 8th, 1821. He has always been engaged in farming, and came to Putnam in 1841. His first wife was Mrs. Henry Hopkins, by whom he had two children: Mary, wife of Horace E. Hurlburt of Putnam, and

Martha, died in infancy. By his second wife, Sarah Ann Page, he has one child, Hattie E.

Edwin R. Wood, eldest son of Francis B. and Sophia (Hall) Wood, was born in Ludlow, Mass., November 3d, 1833. At the age of six he went to live with his uncle William R. Hall in the town of Chaplin. He came to Putnam in 1849. He has always been a farmer. He enlisted in Company B, 18th Connecticut volunteers for three years, and was discharged in May, 1865. He lost his leg at the Battle of Lynchburg, Va., June 18th, 1864. His first wife was Harriet White, whose children were: Albert Edwin, died aged 3 years; Joseph R., resides in Westfield, Mass., and Jerome, resides in Southampton, Mass. By his second wife, Abby E. Cruff, he has had children: Elma C., resides in Putnam, and Edwin L.

Alfred H. Wright, second son of Daniel C. and Agnes (Lyon) Wright, was born in Waltham, Mass., June 13th, 1859. He graduated from the Waltham High School in 1873. His father being engaged by the American Watch Company, he was apprenticed at the age of sixteen to learn the watchmaker's trade. He was employed by the American Watch Company till 1882, and from that time till 1885 was employed by the Hampden Watch Company of Springfield, Mass. In connection with his twin brother, Albert C., in 1883, he established a retail jewelry business in Putnam, under the firm name of Wright Brothers ,and in 1885 he came to Putnam to reside. His brother's death occurred June 19th, 1888, and though the firm name remains the same, it consists only of Alfred H. Wright.

KILLINGLY.

William Preston Aldrich was born in 1836 in Thompson. He is a son of Jonathan, and grandson of Jonathan, whose father, Levi, was a son of Levi Aldrich. His mother was Abigail, daughter of Samuel Darling. He is a stone mason by trade, although he and his brother have a farm where they live. He was married in 1871 to Rhoda, daughter of John Tanner. They have three children: James, Proctor, and Jessie. Mr. Aldrich is a prohibitionist.

Jonathan Aldrich was born in 1840 in Killingly, and is a son of Jonathan and Abigail Aldrich. He is a stone mason by trade. He was married in September, 1873, to Lydia Burlingame. They have three children: Florence, Phineas, and Edna.

Clayton L. Alexander, born in December, 1862, is a son of the late Colonel Luther Alexander, who died in March, 1879. His mother is Mrs. Samuel D. Danielson. He was educated at the public schools of Killingly, at the Woodstock Academy, and at the Friends' School of Providence, R. I. He has been in the brick business at Palmer, Mass., since 1884, where he has displayed a business ability rarely seen in men of his age. He was married in July, 1880, to Anna A., daughter of Wolcott Day. They have four children: Luther D., C. Clifford, Orrilus W. and Dorothy. Mr. Alexander is a democrat.

Miss Emma F. Alexander is a daughter of Colonel William, who received his title in the state militia. Nell Alexander was the first of the family to settle in Killingly in 1721, and purchased a large tract of land near the northwest corner of the town. He was married the same year, 1721, to Susan Adams, whose ancestors came to America in 1630. Their only son Nell, married Prudence Cady, and their only son Nell, born in 1757, married Esther Smith, by whom he had nine children, among whom was William, better known as "Colonel William," born March 24th, 1787. He was married in 1816 to Susan, daughter of Captain John Day. They had eight children, three of whom are now living—Emma F., John D. and Reverend W. S. Alexander, D. D., of North Cambridge, Mass. Colonel William was state senator one term and representative several terms. Prior to 1856 he was a democrat, after that time a republican. He built the residence in 1847 where Emma F. now lives. He died in October, 1875, his wife having died eight years previous.

Anthony Ames was born in 1826 in Sterling, Conn. He is a son of Eliphalet Ames, and grandson of Samuel, whose father Mark, was a son of Anthony Ames. He came to this town at the age of seven years, was educated at Danielsonville Academy, and at the age of eighteen began to teach. In 1846 he went into the store at Ballouville, where he kept the books and store for the company two years. In 1853 he went into the mercantile business in Danielsonville, keeping a dry goods store for about ten years, then a clothing store until 1877, when he sold out to E. A. Finley. He was president of the Windham County Savings Bank from 1876 to 1886, and since that time has been vice-president. He has been a member of the school board about thirty years, and was town clerk and treasurer about twenty years. He was elected representative in 1888 as a re-

publican. He was married in 1853 to Abbie M. Wheaton. He is a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M., and has been secretary for fourteen years.

Henry Clinton Atwood, born in Williamsville in 1856, is the oldest son of William Allen and Caroline (Hargrave) Atwood. Mr. Atwood went from the schools of this town to the Friends' school at Providence, thence to the University Grammar School of Providence, finishing his education in 1878 at Brown University. He took charge of the company store at Williamsville, and continued in the same until his father's death in June, 1881; since that time he has been superintendent for the Manufacturing Company. He has been on the school board four years, and in 1888 was elected to represent this town in the legislature. He was married in 1878 to L. B. Whitford, daughter of Thomas W. Whitford. They have one son, Clinton William.

Kimball Atwood, born in 1830 in Scituate, R. I., is a son of William C. and grandson of Kimball Atwood. His mother was Julianna, daughter of Major Richard M. Andrews. Mr. Atwood came from Rhode Island to Williamsville in 1850, where he remained until 1862, with the exception of one year. From 1862 to 1865 he served in Company K, 18th Connecticut volunteers, as first sergeant. Since 1865 he has been overseer of carding. He was married in 1856 to Abbie J., daughter of William Newell. They have one son, Earl K. Mr. Atwood is a republican.

Orrin S. Arnold, son of Henry B. Arnold, was born in 1837 in Coventry, R. I. He learned the trade of bobbin and spool maker in Coventry, R. I. He came to Williamsville in 1864 and bought an interest in the bobbin manufactory of R. N. Potter, and continued in company with Mr. Potter until the latter's death in 1879. Soon after Mr. Arnold bought of the Potter heirs their interest in the business and continued alone until 1887, when he took as partner G. D. Barber. The firm is now the Arnold Barber Bobbin Company. Mr. Arnold was married in 1873 to Lucy M. C., daughter of Simon and Mary (Danielson) Buck, daughter of Captain Samuel and Elizabeth (Spaulding) Danielson. They have two children. Mr. Arnold built the residence where he now lives in 1867.

A. E. Austin, born in 1831 in Killingly, is a son of Silas and Susan (Easton) Austin. He is painter for the Williamsville Manufacturing Company. He was married in 1852 to Rosanna,

daughter of Robert K. Hargrave, whose father was William Hargrave. They have two sons—Oscar T., born in 1857, and Charles E. Oscar T. has been employed sixteen years by the Williamsville Manufacturing Company. He is a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M. Mrs. Austin is a member of the Congregational church of Williamsville.

Charles H. Bacon was born in 1851, in Killingly, Conn. He is a son of William C., whose father, David A., was a son of David Bacon. William C. Bacon began the furniture and undertaking business at Westfield about 1820, and when the Arcade block was built on Main street he moved his business to the south rooms of the block, where he continued until the burning of the building, and later continued in the block that was built in its place until its burning the second time. Then he took the business to the Rothal Hall building where it still is. At Mr. Bacon's death in 1877, Charles H. took full control of the business, having being with his father several years. He keeps a full line of house furnishing goods. He sold the undertaking business to J. J. Reynolds in 1885. Mr. Bacon was married in 1871 to Alice M., daughter of John Lily. They have two sons: Edward H. and William C. Mr. Bacon is a member of the Congregational church.

Isaac B. Ballard was born January 16th, 1817. His father Isaac was in the war of 1812, and his grandfather, Jacob, was in the war of the revolution. He is the only survivor of five children. He is a farmer, and built the house where he has since resided in 1861 near Ballouville. He was married January 30th, 1848, to Mrs. Susan P. Smith, daughter of Spencer Dingley, son of Levi, who was a son of Jacob Dingley, of Maine. Mr. Ballard is a republican.

David Barroyclow, son of David Barroyclow, was born in Yorkshire, England, in 1813. He was a mill operative in England for several years. He came to Woonsocket, R. I., in 1848, where he worked at manufacturing until 1871, when he came to Killingly, where for several years he was engaged with S. & H. Sayles. In 1883 he built a residence near Dayville, where he now lives. He was married in 1848 to Elizabeth Fenly. She died in 1864, leaving two sons, Frederick W. and Charles H. He was married in 1864 to Alice Barrot. They have one son, Albert.

Mary A. Bartlett was a daughter of Arba Covell, son of Sampson, and he a son of Ebenezer Covell. She was married in September, 1832, to Waldo Bartlett, son of Reuben and grandson of Richard Bartlett. He was born in Killingly in 1810, was a farmer, and died at his home in East Killingly in 1873. They had nine children: Leonard, Almond, Mary E., Prescott, Hattie K., Almira, Reuben, Henry and Charles, all of whom are living.

Leonard Bartlett, eldest son of Waldo, was born July 13th, 1833. He was educated at the deaf mute school of Hartford, from 1847 to 1852. He learned the shoemaker's trade while there, and has followed the business since that time at East Killingly. He has been thrice married: first, to Theresa L. Barber, second, to Patient E. Slocum, and third, to Abbie N. Fitch. He has one daughter, Mary E., by the first marriage, and two children by the second marriage—Clarence A. and Clara A.

Frank W. Bennett, son of Sampson Bennett, was born in 1859. He attended the grammar and high schools of Killingly, then the high school of Exeter, New Hampshire, for one year. He was at Eastman's College in the winter of 1879–80. He entered the office of the Sabin L. Sayles Manufacturing Company at the age of fifteen years, and has continued in the same, with the exception of the two years, 1880 and 1881. He is now bookkeeper and paying clerk for the company. He is a republican, a member of Assawaga Lodge, No. 20, A. O. U. W., and a member of John Lyon Lodge, No. 45, K. of P.

Wheaton A. Bennett, born in 1826 in Killingly, is a son of Sterry and grandson of Israel Bennett. He was for about twenty years overseer of weaving in a factory in Massachusetts. He came to the farm near Ballouville where he now lives in 1867, and since that time has been a farmer. He was married in 1846 to Hepsibeth, daughter of Jeremiah Law. They have one son, Adelbert L., and one daughter that died, Ella L. Mr. Bennett is a democrat, and a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M.

Caleb Blanchard was born in 1833. He is a son of George, whose father, Caleb, was a son of Isaac Blanchard, who was a descendant of the French Huguenots. He has been a carpenter since 1850; was contractor and builder until 1873, and since that time he has been boss carpenter for the Ballouville mills. He was in the war of the rebellion, in Company B, 18th Connecticut volunteers, from August, 1862, until May, 1865, and was

discharged as sergeant. He was married in 1856 to Martha Preston. They have two children—Ada E. and Mary F. He is a member of Marvin Waite Post, No. 51, G. A. R., and a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M.

Charles S. Blackmar was born in 1853. His father, Charles P., was a son of John and grandson of Richard Blackmar, who came to this country with three brothers. His mother is Harriet, daughter of Franklin Clark, son of Moody and grandson of Edward Clark. Mr. Blackmar was educated at the Danielsonville schools. He was bookkeeper for the Danielsonville Manufacturing Company from 1874 to 1887, and in August, 1887, became bookkeeper for the Attawaugan Manufacturing Company, which position he has since filled. He married in 1877 Sue, daughter of Dean and Mary (Kennedy) West, the latter a daughter of Joshua Kennedy. They have one daughter, Mae. Mr. Blackmar is a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M. His father, C. P. Blackmar, is in the post office department at Washington.

Shubael Blanchard, born in 1831 in Plainfield, is a son of Abraham and grandson of Caleb Blanchard. His mother was Minerva (Potter) Blanchard. He came from Plainfield to Killingly in 1848, where he has worked for twenty-four years at carpenter work, but he is now farming. He was married in 1855 to Martha J., daughter of George W. and Delila (Russel) Randall. They have four children: Henry M., Emily E., Carrie and Grace E. Mr. Blanchard is a democrat.

Alfred B. Boswell, born in 1833, in Foster, R. I., is a son of William and grandson of William Boswell, who came to this country from England about the time of the "Boston Tea Party," and served under Washington in the revolution. His mother was Diana, daughter of Doctor Jerry Wilcox, of Foster. Mr. Boswell is a stone mason and has worked at that trade about thirty-seven years. He came to Danielsonville in 1884. For twenty-three years prior to that time he lived in South Killingly, on the farm that he still owns. He was married in 1858 to Harriet, daughter of George Babcock. They have three children: Alfred A., Susan H. and George C. Mr. Boswell is a poultry fancier and breeds some very fine specimens. He is vice-president of the Danielsonville Poultry Association. He is a republican.

Nicholas Bowen, son of David and Mary (Bussey) Bowen, was born in 1826 in Glocester. He is a carpenter by trade. He came to Dayville from Rhode Island in July, 1865, and the winter following he went into the shop of the S. L. Sayles Manufacturing Company, where he had charge of repairs on iron until May, 1885, and since that time he has worked at carpentering. He was married in 1848 to Sarah, daughter of Joshua Card, of Sterling, Conn. They have two children living—Mary E. (Mrs. Frank Burnett), and Julia E. They lost six: Edward Everett, Lucy M., Charles A., Thankful B., Charlie M. and David A. Mr. Bowen is a republican.

Oliver W. Bowen, born in 1843 in Foster, R. I., is a son of Nelson C., and grandson of Oliver Bowen. He was in the hardware and undertaking business with his father, firm of N. C. Bowen & Son, from 1869 to 1876. He started a livery stable in Danielsonville in 1882, which he still runs. He is selectman of the town as a republican. He was married in 1866 to Ada E., daughter of Josiah H. Randall. He is a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M.

Thomas Bradford, born in 1849 in Canterbury, is a son of Archibald, and grandson of Thomas Bradford. His mother is Emeline, daughter of Abby Hyde. Mr. Bradford came to Danielsonville in April, 1871, and fitted up a shop, where he worked at wagon making about six years, and since that time has worked at different kinds of mechanical work. In 1887 he built a stone arched bridge in Danielsonville, which cost $5,300. He is now serving his second year as selectman as a democrat. He was married in 1882 to Ida E., daughter of Marcus L. Aldrich. They have one son, Lewis A.

Albert Brown, born December 4th, 1822, is the only child of Artemas, and grandson of Joseph Brown, who came from Pomfret to Breakneck hill, where he remained until his death. His mother was Achsa Harrington. Mr. Brown was a shoemaker by trade, having followed the business for about thirty years, but since then he has been a farmer at the north end of Breakneck hill, where he now resides. He was married in December, 1846, to Celia, daughter of John H. Marcey. They have two daughters—Emma A. (Mrs. J. M. Keene) and Anna A. (Mrs. Frank H. Bowen).

Dexter Remington Burdick, born in 1823 in Voluntown, Conn., is a son of Cranston and Prudence (Lillibridge) Burdick. He is

a cotton manufacturer, having been overseer and superintendent of different mills in Rhode Island, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. He has lived at East Killingly since 1884. He was married in 1876 to Mrs. Emily C. Reynolds, daughter of George A. and Lucy (Mastcraft) Columbus. By a former marriage Mr. Burdick had four children: John F., George H., Helen E. (deceased), and Hattie A. Mr. Burdick is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows orders.

Daniel P. Burlingham was born January 21st, 1818, in New York. He is a son of Samuel, whose father, Benjamin, was a son of Jonathan Burlingham. His mother, Randilla, was a daughter of Daniel Preston. Mr. Burlingham came to Killingly about forty years ago, was for several years in the grocery business, and since that time has been farming in a small way. He was married November 22d, 1838, to Hannah G., daughter of Lewis Bateman, he a son of Thomas, he a son of Hector, and he a son of Lord William Henry Bateman. Seth and Luther Bateman are second cousins to Mrs. B. They have one son, Daniel L. Mr. Burlingham has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Danielsonville since 1846, class leader about thirty years, and trustee twenty-five years.

Harris O. Burton, son of Elliot and Bernice (Williams) Burton, was born in Foster, R. I., in 1836, and came to Killingly from Rhode Island in 1850. He has been a cotton mill operative for many years, and overseer of weaving for the past fifteen years at the "Valley Mills." He was married in 1857 to Olive F., daughter of Reverend Jonathan Oatley. They have one son, Walter F., and one daughter, Elizabeth A., who died in infancy. Mr. Burton is a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M.

Fred. L. Butts was born in 1856 in Killingly. His father, Henry W. Butts, was born in 1829, and married in 1856 Sarah J., daughter of William C. Marple. They have five children: Fred. L., Orrilla R., Phœbe L., Anna E. and Sarah H. Mr. Butts is a brick mason by trade. He was in California from 1884 until January, 1888.

George W. Butts, born in 1830 in Plainfield, Conn., is a son of Hollis, and grandson of Luther Butts. His mother was Rebecca, daughter of Benedict Hopkins. Mr. Butts was at Coventry, Conn., nine years, coming from there to Williamsville in 1864, where he built a house with a view to keeping a hotel with store in basement. He has kept a store several years, and a livery

stable since he came here. He was married in 1853 to Sabra C., daughter of Arbey and Rachel (Vaughn) Adams. They have five children: Edna E., Hattie E., M. Rosa, George W. Jr., and Bertha M. Mr. Butts is a republican.

E. S. Carpenter, son of Richard Carpenter, was born in 1838, in Thompson. His mother was Cyntha, daughter of William Walker. Mr. Carpenter was brought up a farmer. He came to Danielsonville in 1861, and for about ten years was in the shoe factory of Abner Young. He has collected the borough tax sixteen years, town tax six years and school tax eight years, has been constable nineteen years, for sixteen years has been a member of the republican committee, and fifteen years chairman of that body. He was married in 1862 to Julia, daughter of Mowry and Hannah Knight. They have one daughter, Ella L., two sons having died—Edward C. in infancy and Vernon L. aged twelve years. He is a member of the Danielsonville Baptist church, and has been sexton of the new church since it was built. He is a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M., also a member of Warren Chapter and Montgomery Council.

John G. Carter, son of Nehemiah, was born April 28th, 1842, in Westboro, Mass. He went to Boston at the age of seventeen, and since that time has been an artist. He was for five years in the studio of William M. Hunt. He has spent one year in Europe, and has traveled extensively in America. Since his marriage he has spent his summers in Danielsonville, and for the past two years has claimed his residence there. He was married in 1868 to Ada, daughter, of Harvey, Jr., and Lucy (Pierce) Chamberlin, and granddaughter of Harvey Chamberlin. Mr. and Mrs. Carter now occupy the house which was built by her father about fifty years ago. The latter was a stone mason by trade, and did much of the stone work on the Norwich and Worcester Branch Railroad.

Matthew W. Chace, born in 1850 in Killingly, Conn., is a son of Sanford and grandson of Robert Chace. His mother is Eliza W., daughter of Solomon Peck. Mr. Chace bought a farm in Pomfret in 1876, where he resided until April, 1886, and since that time he has been boss farmer for the Williamsville Manufacturing Company. He was married June 8th, 1876, to Kate, daughter of John F. Spencer. They have one daughter, Mary Eliza. He is a member of Wolfden Grange, of Pomfret, P. of H.

Benjamin F. Chapman, born in 1813 in Cumberland, R. I., is a

son of John and grandson of Benjamin Chapman. His mother was Abbie, daughter of Peter Miller. Mr. Chapman was brought up a farmer, in 1840 began dealing in farm produce, in 1842 began to slaughter and peddle meat in Pomfret, and a short time later moved the business to Dayville, and in 1844 to Danielsonville, where he continued (with the exception of three years when he rented the business and went to New York state) until September, 1880, when the son, Charles F., succeeded to the business. He was married in 1842 to Ruth L., daughter of Jeremiah Field. They have seven children living: Laura A., William J., Charles F., Mary E., Robert B., Frank W. and Helen L. They lost two: George and Augusta. Mr. Chapman has been selectman two years as a democrat.

Charles F. Chapman, son of Benjamin F., was born in 1847 in Killingly, Conn. In 1870 Mr. Chapman went to Worcester, Mass., where he worked at the butcher business until August, 1880. The month following he bought his father's business in Danielsonville, which he has run since that time. He runs two carts and handles about $3,000 worth of meat per month. He was married February 9th, 1871, to S. M. A. Chase, daughter of William A. Chase. They have two children: Harry F. and Walter C. Mr. Chapman is a democrat and a member of the order of Odd Fellows.

Giles Chase, born in Killingly August 23d, 1810, is a son of Judge David Chase, born 1779 and died 1866. He was county judge two terms and judge of probate two years. He was the oldest son of Edward Chase, who was a son of David Chase. Giles Chase's mother was Amy, daughter of Whitney Graves. He is a civil engineer and surveyor. He has been on the board of selectmen two terms. He resided in Mechanicsville from 1868 until 1888. In August of that year he returned to Killingly, where he now resides. He was married in 1842 to Orpha D., daughter of Joshua Spaulding. They have six children: Omera G., Canova, David, Charles D., Cassius S. and Emma F.

Cassius S. Chase, son of Giles and Orpha (Spaulding) Chase, was born in 1854 in Killingly, Conn. He went from Killingly to Mechanicsville in 1868. While there he was in a store several years, leaving it to come to Elmville in January, 1886, where he has been in business with Charles D. Chase, firm of C. D. & C. S. Chase. He was married in 1885 to Cora M., daughter of Erastus Alton. They have one son, Harold Alton. He is a member of

Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M., and of John Lyon Lodge, No. 45, K. of P. He is a republican.

Charles D. Chase, son of Giles and Orpha (Spaulding) Chase, mentioned above, was born in 1852 in Killingly, Conn. He went from Killingly to Mechanicsville in 1868, and there learned the business of woolen manufacturing. In 1876 he went to Jeffersonville, Mass., where he superintended a woolen mill for nine years. January 1st, 1886, he came to Elmville, where, in company with his brother Cassius S., he has run a woolen mill since that time, the production being fancy cassimeres. They now run 24 broad looms and employ 75 hands. Their power is a fall in the Whetstone brook, supplemented by steam. He was married June 28th, 1877, to Eliza J., daughter of Nathan Doty. They have four children: Warren D., Marvin E., Herbert G. and Alice B. They lost two, Charles E. and Harry S. Mr. Chase is a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M., and a member of John Lyon Lodge, No. 45, K. of P.

Chauncy C. Chase was born in 1850 in Killingly. He is a son of George W., son of Abner, son of Cromwell, son of Oliver, son of Oliver Chase. His mother was Mary Watson. Mr. Chase went into the employ of the Attawaugan Manufacturing Company in 1867. In 1872 he was made overseer of carding at Ballouville, and one year later took charge of carding at Attawaugan, which he continued for ten years, the last four of which he had charge of carding at both mills. In 1884 he was made superintendent at Ballouville, which place he still fills. He was married in 1868 to Elizabeth A. Harrington. They have four children: Clarence C., Albert A., Eva May and George H. He is a member of the Attawaugan Methodist Episcopal church, a member of Assawaga Lodge, No. 20, A. O. U. W., and a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M.

Cromwell D. Chase, born in 1827, is the oldest son of Cromwell, and grandson of Reuben Chase. His mother was Mahala (Wood) Chase. Mr. Chase is a farmer, having owned and occupied the farm where he now lives since 1856. He was selectman one term. He was married to Mary W. Bastow. She died in 1881, leaving three children: Mary D., Susan M. and Cromwell O. Mr. Chase is a democrat.

Samuel C. Chase, born August 23d, 1817, is the oldest son of Danford, and grandson of Reuben Chase. His mother was Lucy Covell. Mr. Chase was educated in the district schools of

the town. He was a farmer in early life, but since 1856 he has been a doctor, his principal treatment being magnetism. He has a large practice, having offices in Providence, Norwich and Putnam. He has been selectman several years, judge of probate one term, and one term representative in the legislature. He has been married three times: first to Emily Fuller, who died leaving three children—Lucy A., Samuel O. (deceased) and Emily J. The second wife was Mary M. Burlingham, who died childless. The third wife was Tamison Rich. They have one son, Rufus R.

William A. Chase was born in 1831 in Killingly. He is a son of Abner, whose father Cromwell, was a son of Oliver, and grandson of Oliver Chase. His mother was Esther, daughter of Jacob Cleveland. He was in the war of the rebellion, in Company A, 12th Rhode Island volunteers, enlisting in September, 1862, for nine months. Since 1863 he has been employed in the butcher business. He was town clerk one year. He was married in 1851 to Amanda M., daughter of Obed Fuller. They have three daughters—Mrs. C. F. Chapman, Mrs. E. H. Storrs and Mrs. Frank T. Preston. Mr. Chase is a democrat and a member of the Danielsonville Baptist church.

George J. Clark, born in 1828, in Chaplin, Conn., is a son of James, born in 1786, and grandson of Daniel Clark, born in 1750. His mother was Sally, daughter of John and Jerusha Richardson. His grandmother was Mehitabel (Slate) Clark. Mr. Clark is a mason by trade. He has lived in Killingly about twenty-five years. He built a handsome residence on Broad street in 1883. He was married in 1854 to Adelia H., daughter of Ira Gregory, a son of Ira Gregory. They have one daughter, Nettie E. They lost two children—Delia A. and Henry G. Mr. Clark is a democrat and a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M.

Benjamin Cogswell was born February 17th, 1838, in Trowbridge, England, and is a son of William and Elizabeth Cogswell. Mr. Cogswell came from England to Burrillville, R. I., in 1848, where he resided until July, 1866. He was interested in manufacturing, was for several years overseer of weaving, and for the last year there was superintendent of a manufacturing concern. In July, 1866, he came to Dayville, and was superintendent of S. L. Sayles' mill until March, 1887, and since that time he has been confined to the house by sickness. He was married December 25th, 1858, to Sarah S., daughter of Daniel S.

and Mary Rebecca Shumway. Their children are: Ida L. (Mrs. Frank G. Bailey), Cora Edna, Mabel S., Bernice S., Will D. and Benjamin S. He is a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M., of John Lyon Lodge, No. 45, K. of P., and of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

Samuel Cogswell, son of William and Elizabeth Cogswell, was born in 1846 in England, and came to Rhode Island in 1847. He came from Burrillville, R. I., to Dayville in 1866, and learned the business of woolen manufacturing with S. & H. Sayles. About ten years later he went to Adams, Mass., where he superintended a mill for Peter Blackinton about five years. He came to Killingly with T. E. Hopkins in 1880, and since that time has superintended his woolen mill. He was married in February, 1868, to Emily A., daughter of Albert S. Potter. They have two children—Edna E. and Frank E. He is a member of John Lyon Lodge, No. 45, K. of P., also a member of Assawaga Lodge, No. 20, A. O. U. W.

William Comins, born in 1820 in Woodstock, Conn., is a son of Parker Comins, who came from Woodstock to Putnam in 1825, and three years later to Danielsonville. His mother was Lucy, daughter of David Copp. Mr. Comins acquired the harness maker's trade when a lad. He was in Company K, 18th Connecticut volunteers, from August 18th, 1862, until the close of the war. His brother Alfred was in the service in the 17th Connecticut volunteers, and was shot at Cold Harbor. He has been loom harness maker for twenty-five years. He was married November 30th, 1843, to Eliza M., daughter of Philip Tanner, who was in the war of 1812. He was the son of William, who served seven years in the revolution, and also served in the war of 1812. They have three sons. He is a member of the Congregational church, and a republican.

Charles F. Coone, son of Frank and Susan (Hale) Coone, was born in 1840 in Brooklyn, Conn. He was a farmer until he was twenty-five years old, and at that time began to learn the carpenter's trade, which he has since followed. Since 1880 he has been working at repairs for the Quinebaug Manufacturing Company. He built the residence on Broad street where he now lives in 1874. He was married in 1869 to Emily M., daughter of John R. Stone. Mr. Coone is a republican.

Oliver Smith Covell was born in 1829 in Killingly. He is a son of Oliver, son of Sampson, son of Ebenezer, son of Joseph

Covell, who owned and occupied a farm at the north end of Chestnut hill. Mr. Covell owns and occupies the farm where his father lived from 1816 until his death in 1852. This is the same farm where the wife of Ephraim Fisk gave birth to four children about 1780. This quadruple birth is discussed in many families of the town to this day. The house in which these four babes spent the first few years of their lives is now occupied by Mr. Covell. In this same house was born the father of Clinton B. Fisk, whose mother was a second wife of Ephraim Fisk. Mr. Covell was married in 1852 to Mary A. W., daughter of Orrin Reynolds. They have one daughter, Mary L. (Mrs. D. Cutler. Oliver Covell was in the war of 1812. One of his sons was killed at Cold Harbor during the war of the rebellion. He served in the 11th Connecticut volunteers.

Sidney W. Crofut was born in 1847 in Brooklyn, N. Y. He received a military education at the Military Academy on the Hudson. Mr. Crofut has been connected with large corporations, and for many years in an official capacity, and has the reputation of being an able and experienced business man and financier, and is esteemed as a representative citizen of the borough of Danielsonville and town of Killingly. He came to Danielsonville from Brooklyn, N. Y., in 1884, and at that time bought an interest in the fire insurance and real estate agency of E. L. Palmer. The business was continued in the firm name of Palmer & Crofut until September, 1886, when the partnership was dissolved by mutual consent, Mr. Crofut succeeding to the insurance business of the firm, which he has continued since that time. He represents a line of leading companies, and by his thorough business methods and known integrity has won a large patronage, and given his agency a wide popularity in his own and adjoining towns. He is a prominent and active member of the Baptist church, and treasurer of the society. He is one of the trustees of the Windham County Savings Bank, and was for some time president of the People's Library Association. He is one of the committee of the high school. In politics Mr. Crofut is a staunch republican. In April, 1887, he was elected a member of the court of burgesses of Danielsonville. In April, 1888, he was chosen warden of the borough, and the intelligence and executive ability exhibited by him in that office have proven him thoroughly competent to fill executive offices of even much greater importance.

It was during his term as warden that the borough contracted for fifty hydrants for fire purposes, and he was one of the gentlemen prominent in bringing this about. In the presidential campaign of 1888 he was vice-chairman of the Harrison and Morton Club executive committee, and in this position he brought into play the same adaptability to business methods and thorough mastery of and close attention to details which he puts into anything he undertakes. He owns and occupies one of the finest residences in the borough.

Rufus D. Curtis, born in 1824 in Ashford, is a son of Norman, who was a soldier in the war of 1812, and whose father, Chester Curtis, was in the revolutionary war. His mother was Margaret, daughter of John Greenman, of Kingston, R. I. Mr. Curtis was brought up on a farm in Brooklyn. In 1860 he came to Killingly and built the house where he now resides, having been a farmer since that time. He served in the war of the rebellion from August 1st, 1862, to September 23d, 1865, in the 18th Connecticut volunteers, Company K. He lost his right leg June 5th, 1864. He was married in 1848 to Lydia, daughter of Gardiner Phillips. They have six children: Emma (Mrs. G. I. Hopkins), Janette (Mrs. W. E. Talbot), Ida, Estelle, Lena (Mrs. George H. Tripp) and Lewis L. G., who graduated from Exeter Academy in June, 1889.

Edward P. Danielson was born in 1831 in Killingly, Conn. He is a son of Jacob, son of Samuel, son of Samuel, son of Samuel, son of James Danielson, who was the original settler here, and who established and laid out the Westfield cemetery. His mother was Lucy M. Prince. She had five children: George Whitman, Edward P., Eliza M., L. Jane and William J. Mr. Danielson is a house carpenter by trade. In 1868 he built the house where he now lives, and since that time he has been a farmer and carpenter. He was married in 1861 to Mary E. Johnson. She died in September, 1883. They had two children that died: Walter E. and Ella M. Mr. Danielson's grandfather was in the war of 1812.

Eliza A. Danielson is a daughter of Alvira Durfee, granddaughter of Philip Durfee, a son of Captain William Durfee. She was married in 1861 to James Danielson, who was born in 1832. He was in the war of the rebellion in Company F, 11th Connecticut volunteers, from 1861 until his death, which occurred October 12th, 1864. He entered the service as a private and held the rank of sergeant at the time of his death.

Emily Danielson, born in Killingly, Conn., is a daughter of Samuel S., who died in 1864. He was a son of Samuel, son of Samuel, son of Samuel, whose father, James Danielson, was the first of the name to settle here, having come from Block Island, R. I., in 1706. Her mother was Esther (Williams) Danielson, who died in 1888. Samuel S. Danielson was a farmer of more than ordinary enterprise. He, like all the Danielson family, was a liberal supporter of the gospel, being a member of the Congregational church of Westfield. He was married October 22d, 1833, to Esther, daughter of Eleazer Williams. They had seven children, of whom only the subject of this sketch is living. They were: Harriet G., who died aged 23 years; two sons and one daughter that died in infancy; Edwin W., who died aged two years; Herbert S., who died aged 23 years, and Emily.

George E. Danielson, born in 1854 in Killingly, is a son of Elisha, whose father James, was a son of William, who built the house where George E. now lives in 1786. He also served in the war of the revolution. He was a son of Samuel, whose father James Danielson bought of Major Fitch in 1707 all the land that lies between the Quinebaug and Five Mile rivers, and north as far as Alexander's pond. Elisha Danielson married for his third wife, Sarah, daughter of Eli Ely. They had nine children, of whom the following are living: Catharine E., William H., Edwin L., George E. and Walter H. Mr. Danielson was married in 1886 to Harriet K., daughter of Thomas R. Baxter. They have one daughter, Catherine K. Mr. Danielson is a member of Westfield Congregational church.

Helen L. Danielson is a daughter of Daniel Frost, who was a prominent lawyer, and died in Canterbury in 1863, aged 76 years. He was the son of Daniel Frost. His mother was the youngest daughter of John Clark, who it is said, established the first button factory in America, he having learned the trade in England. He died at the remarkable age of 101 years in Canterbury. Helen L. married Anderson S. Dean in 1843. He died in 1852, leaving two children—Anderson E. and Jennie L. She married for her second husband Hezekiah L. Danielson in 1870. He was the son of James, and a descendant of the original James Danielson. He was a farmer, and died in 1881. By a former marriage he had several children.

Samuel D. Danielson was born in 1838 in Killingly. He is a son of Adam B. Danielson. His grandparents were Samuel

Danielson and a daughter of Adam Begg, who came from Scotland and settled where Simeon Danielson now lives. Mr. Danielson was brought up a farmer. He was a dry goods salesman seven years, then after a few years he was in the furniture store of Edward Dexter about six years. He is now collector for the sewing machine company in Danielsonville. He was married in 1867 to S. Ellen, daughter of Abel Kennedy. They had two daughters—Mary L., who is now a student at Wellesley College, and Hattie K., who died aged two years. Mrs. Danielson died in September, 1885. He was married again in October, 1886, to Mrs. Amelia F. Alexander, daughter of Francis F. Young. She has two children by a former marriage.

Simeon Danielson was born in 1840 in Killingly. He is a son of Adam B., and grandson of Samuel, whose father Samuel, was a son of Samuel, and grandson of James Danielson. Adam B. was a deacon in the Congregational church of Westfield from 1828 to 1872. He was the father of seven children, three of whom are living. Simeon Danielson was a teacher for twelve years. Since that he has been a farmer. He was married in March, 1883, to Mary C. Harris of Michigan. They have two daughters—Ada E. and Florence H. Mr. Danielson is a republican, and a member of the Congregational church of Westfield.

George R. Davis, son of Randall and Philura (Kies) Davis, was born in 1831 in Killingly, Conn., and is one of nine children, seven of whom are living. Randall Davis bought the farm where George R. now lives of Jonathan Cutler in 1836, and built the present dwelling in 1842. Mr. Davis has been selectman four years as a democrat. He was married in 1864 to Betsey S., daughter of Dyer and Minerva (Durfee) Warren. They have two children—Frank A. and Minnie M.

Herbert Day, born in 1823, is a son of Captain John Day and grandson of John Day, who, with William Alexander, built the first mill at Dayville. His mother was Sarah Ann, daughter of Joseph Dexter. Of their five children there are only two living—Albert and Herbert. Mr. Day was a farmer prior to 1868, and since that time he has lived in Danielsonville. He was married in 1861 to Ellen, daughter of William N. Millard. They have three children. Mrs. Day died in 1870. Mr. Day was married again in 1878 to Lucy Gague. John Day was a soldier in the war of 1812.

Walter F. Day, born in March, 1849, in Killingly, is a son of Colonel Luther Day and grandson of John Day. His mother was Emily Fisher. She was married to Mr. Day in 1840. They had four children: Waterman A. and Walter B., deceased, and Eliza P. (Mrs. John M. Brown) and Walter F., who is a farmer, occupying the farm where his father and grandfather both lived. He runs a milk route to Dayville and Elmville. He has a farm of 200 acres. He has been on the board of relief two years. He was married in 1879 to Carrie, daughter of Julius Rood. They have four children: Carrie E., Mary E., Luther W. and Arthur L. Colonel Luther Day died in April, 1881, aged 81 years.

Edward Dexter, son of Jonathan and grandson of Joseph Dexter, was born in 1831 in Killingly, Conn. He was a farmer until 37 years of age. About 1868 he bought the furniture and house furnishing business of George Bates; in 1876 the undertaking business was added, and in 1886 he put in a carpet department. He built what is known as the Dexter Block in 1881, and since that time his business has been at its present location. He was married in 1864 to Margaret, daughter of George Clark. He is a member of the Westfield Congregational church and a republican.

Horace A. Dixon, born in 1839, in Providence, R. I., is a son of Horace and grandson of Charles Dixon. His mother was Martha M., daughter of Brinton Arnold. Mr. Dixon came to Connecticut when a lad. In 1862 he enlisted in Company E, 5th Connecticut volunteers, and served his country until the close of the war. In 1869 he came to Danielsonville, working in the machine shop of the Quinebaug Manufacturing Company about five years, since which time he has been overseer of the machine shop of the Danielsonville Cotton Company. He was married in 1868 to Harriet E., daughter of John Lily. They have one son, Walter L. Mr. Dixon is a member of McGregor Post, No. 27, G. A. R., and a member of Orient Lodge, No. 37, K. of P. He is a republican.

M. P. Dowe, born in 1835 in Providence, R. I., is a son of Amasa, and grandson of Amasa Dowe. He came to Danielsonville in 1845. In 1854 he went into the jewelry store with his father, learning the jeweler's trade. In 1860 he established a book, stationery and news business. In 1873 he bought the store and moved his business to its present location. In 1874 he

added woolen and worsted yarns to his stock. In 1883 the firm of M. P. Dowe & Sons was established, and the business is carried on under that name at the present time. Mr. Dowe has been a member of the board of education several terms and has been warden, clerk and treasurer of the borough. He was appointed postmaster in January, 1887. He is a democrat. He has had the telephone office since the Danielsonville division was built in 1882. He was married in 1856 to Emily A. Davis. They have two sons: John M. and Charles A.

Almond N. Durfee was born November 16th, 1840. He is a son of Horace, who was born in 1813, and died in 1886. The latter was a son of Abner, whose father was Captain William Durfee, who was a sea captain in early life, and lived in Newport county, R. I. He emigrated to Killingly, and purchased a large tract of land on Chestnut hill, and a part of that same land is the farm where Mr. Durfee now lives, and which is owned by Miss Sarah C. Durfee of Providence, R. I. Mr. Durfee was married October 17th, 1868, to Ann Dagnan. They have one daughter, Ellen Edna. Mr. Durfee is a democrat.

Melvin E. Fisher was born in 1843 in Woodstock, Conn. He is the only son of Lucius B., and grandson of Alcott and Mary (Jackson) Fisher. His mother was Emily, daughter of Jonathan and Sarah (Smith) Howard, daughter of Daniel Smith. Mr. Fisher has been a carpenter for the past twenty years in Danielsonville. He built his residence on Hutchins street in 1882. He was married in 1870, to Amy, daughter of Leonard Chaffee. They have one daughter, Grace E.

Erastus E. Fiske, son of Peleg and Eliza (Henry) Fiske, was born in 1836 in Killingly, and is a farmer. He served in Company K, 18th Connecticut volunteers, from August, 1862, until June, 1865. He was married in 1859 to Lydia J. Butman, who died in 1867. He was married again in 1871 to Mary J., daughter of Thomas Dexter, and granddaughter of Thomas Dexter. Their children are: Charles A., Walter R., Ella J. and Ida May. Mr. Fiske is a republican and a member of the Free Will Baptist church.

Isaac Fogg, son of Luther and Nancy Fogg, was born in 1818, in Maine, and is a carpenter by trade. In 1851 he came to East Killingly, where he has since lived. He represented this town in the legislature in 1862 and 1864. He was postmaster at East Killingly about sixteen years prior to October, 1885. He was

married in 1842 to Hannah A., daughter of George A. and Lucy (Mastcraft) Columbus. They had one son, Henry M., who died in infancy.

Calvin H. Frisbie, son of William Frisbie, was born in 1852 in Connecticut. He finished his education in Norwich, in 1869. He came to Attawaugan in 1869, where he learned the machinist's trade and was boss machinist for about four years. In 1879 he was made superintendent of the Attawaugan Manufacturing Company, which position he has since filled. He was married in 1879 to Marion, daughter of Lyman Taft, of Smithfield, R. I. They have three children: Hattie C., Henry L. and William R. Mr. Frisbie is a republican, a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M. and a member of Chapter and Council.

John W. Gallup was born in 1867 in Sterling, Conn. He is the oldest son of Ezra A., whose father, Daniel A., was a son of Esquire John Gallup. His mother was Olive (Knight) Gallup. He was educated at the public schools of Sterling and at the Plainfield Academy. He came to Danielsonville in August, 1887, and worked in the butcher and meat business for F. W. Medbery until December, 1888, when he bought the business.

Nathaniel S. Gallup, born in April, 1818, in Windham, is a son of Thomas, whose father, Nathaniel, was a son of Benjamin Gallup. His mother was Martha, daughter of Josiah Smith. Mr. Gallup is a farmer, although he has taught school twenty winters. He came from Voluntown to Killingly in 1875, and three years later he bought a small farm and put up the buildings where his residence now is. He represented the town of Voluntown one term, 1855, and was judge of probate and held other town offices. Since living here he has been selectman one term and on the school board two terms. He was married in 1851 to Mrs. Abbie White, daughter of Stephen S. Pierce, who was a son of Thomas Pierce, of Sterling. Mr. Gallup is a democrat. He lived in Voluntown from 1836 until 1875.

Patrick Gibbons, son of Thomas Gibbons, was born in Ireland in 1852, and came from Ireland to Wauregan, in the town of Plainfield, in 1853, where he lived until 1878. He worked eight years in the Wauregan store, going from there to Putnam, where he remained two years. In August, 1880, he established a general store at Chestnut hill, where he continued until March, 1884, when he moved the business to Killingly Centre. In August, 1888, he sold out to John and Peter Leyden. He was married in

1879 to Maria C. Leyden. They have three children: Minnie A., John T. and George E. He is a member of the Dayville Catholic church, and a member of John Lyon Lodge, No. 45, K. of P.

J. Charles Greene was born September 5th, 1833, in Smithfield, R. I. He is the youngest son of John C., and grandson of Job Greene. Mr. Greene spent his boyhood and youth in Millville, Mass., leaving there at the age of twenty-one. He lived three years in Pascoag, R. I., then one year in Putnam, Conn.; from there he went to Madison county, N. Y., where he was interested in woolen manufacturing, coming back to Putnam for a time, after which he came to Dayville, where he was boss finisher for the Sayles Manufacturing Company eight years. In 1884 he bought a farm of 190 acres, which is one of four farms which comprised a school district at one time, namely, Danielson, Day, Dexter and Williams, called "Between the Rivers" district, and making a school of thirty-six pupils. Mr. Greene was married in 1856 to Mary, daughter of Daniel Harris. They have two sons, Fred. H. and Walter S. They lost one son, Wilmer F.

Albert W. Greenslit, born in December, 1827, in Hampton, Conn., is a son of Ebenezer, who was in the war of 1812, and grandson of John Greenslit. His mother was Lucy Webb. In 1845 he came to Killingly from Hampton, where he has been engaged in cotton manufacturing almost constantly since that time. He was overseer of weaving about ten years, and on October 1st, 1863, he became superintendent of the Valley mills, which position he has filled since that time. He was married in 1848 to Patience M., daughter of Captain Otis Bastow, son of William Bastow. They have one son, Frederick A. He was a member of the legislature in 1876, and has held numerous town offices. He is a member of the Free Will Baptist church of East Killingly.

Eben Griffiths, born in 1823 in Plainfield, Conn., is a son of James Griffiths, who came from Foster, R. I., to Plainfield in 1820. His mother was Clarissa Hyde. Mr. Griffiths came to Danielsonville about 1842. He was engaged on repairs for A. D. Lockwood about seventeen years, in what is now the Quinebaug mill. He has had charge of repairs at the Danielsonville cotton mill since 1868. He built the residence on Maple street where he now lives in 1860. He was married in 1846 to Olive Handall. She died in 1884, leaving five children: Adaline E.

(Mrs. Charles Hyde), Mary E. (Mrs. Albert Jordan), William H., Hortense E. and Clarence L. Mr. Griffiths was married again to Mrs. Mary Bitgood, daughter of Israel Pratt.

Henry H. Hammell, son of James Hammell, was born in 1830 in Manchester, England, and came to America when about fifteen years of age. Since 1851 he has been in the manufacturing business almost constantly. In 1859 he came to the Chestnut Hill mills as overseer of carding, and in 1860 was made superintendent. In 1865 he went to Rhode Island, where he remained until August, 1886. At that time he came back and has been superintendent since that time. He was married in 1852 to Mary Baldwin. She died in 1866, leaving one daughter, Emma. He was married in 1873 to Ruth Round. He is a member of the Baptist church, a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A M., and a republican.

Edward H. Hammett was born in 1856 in Plainfield, Conn. He is a son of Theodore, whose father, Erastus, was a son of Jonathan Hammett. Mr. Hammett was brought up on a farm until 1879, when he came to Danielsonville, where he worked for the Quinebaug Manufacturing Company eight years, and since that time he has been employed in the mill supplies shop of E. H. Jacobs & Co. He was married in 1879 to Ida M., daughter of William Wood. They have two daughters—Myrtie E. and A. M. May. Mr. Hammett is a republican.

Erastus Hammett, born in 1824 in Plainfield, Conn., is a son of Erastus and grandson of Jonathan Hammett. His mother is Priscilla (Wilbur) Hammett. She is now 93 years old. Mr. Hammett was a farmer until 1873. At that time he built a house and moved to Danielsonville, where he was in the express business for nine years. He still owns and runs the old homestead of Jonathan Hammett in Plainfield. He was married in 1846 to Mary, daughter of Isaac Pike. They have four children: Augustus L., Augusta L., Chauncey (deceased) and Frank I.

Theodore Hammett, born in 1820 in Plainfield, is a son of Erastus, and grandson of Jonathan Hammett, who came from Martha's Vineyard to Plainfield when a boy. He married Mehitabel Woodard. Erastus was married to Priscilla Wilbur. They had two sons, Theodore and Erastus. Jonathan Hammett was a representative several times, and selectman about twenty years in Plainfield. Theodore is a farmer, having a farm of 214 acres. He was married January 1st, 1850, to a daughter of Cal-

vin Hubbard. They have had eight children: Theodore E., Edward H., Maria, Abbie M., Nellie L. and three that died—Olive, Carrie and Hattie.

Henry Hammond, born in 1814 in Pomfret, Conn., is a son of Eleazer, and grandson of Stephen Hammond. His mother was Ann M. (Brown) Hammond. Mr. Hammond came to Killingly in 1851. He was a member of the legislature in 1854 and again in 1865, and was state senator in 1881 and 1882. He was for several years trustee of the Windham County Savings Bank, and is now president of the First National Bank of Killingly. He was married in 1840 to Emma Dorrance. They have one daughter living, Harriet J. They lost two children—Charles Henry and Ella. Mr. Hammond has been a member of the Methodist church for about sixty years. He is a republican.

Mrs. Susan Hammond was a daughter of H. Peckham, M. D., who was born in 1777 and died in 1837. He practiced medicine in East Killingly for many years. She was married November 25th, 1831, to Justin Hammond, M. D., who was born in 1804, entered Brown University in 1823, graduated from there in 1827, and received his degree of M. D. from Harvard in 1830, and immediately began practice in Killingly and continued until his death in 1873. He removed from East Killingly to Dayville in 1851, where his widow now lives. Doctor Hammond was a representative in the legislature two terms. He was a whig and later a republican. They had a family of eight children, three of whom are now living: Susan P., of Boston; Henry L., of Dayville, and Ellen F. (Mrs. S. M. Gladwin), of Hartford. Mrs. Hammond is a sister of the late F. H. Peckham, M. D., of Providence, R. I.

Charles S. Hawkins was born in 1818 in Killingly, Conn. He is a son of Arnold, and grandson of Joseph Hawkins, whose father was Moses Hawkins. His mother was Marcia, daughter of Daniel Spaulding. Mr. Hawkins has been a farmer. He built a large residence in Danielsonville in 1873, and two years later he retired from the farm and came here to live. He was married in 1851 to Lydia, daughter of Nathaniel Corey. He is a member of the Westfield Congregational church.

Edwin W. Hayward, son of Edward P. Hayward, was born in 1858 in Pomfret, Conn. He was in Putnam High School about four years. He came to Danielsonville in 1879, and in April of that year the firm of Durkee & Hayward was established, and

they bought the tailor business of E. A. Finney, and added ready made clothing to the business, which was continued until March, 1886, when Mr. Hayward bought Mr. Durkee's interest, and since that time has conducted the business alone. He was married in 1884 to Lizzie, daughter of John H. Stephens. They have one son, Julius S. Mr. Hayward is a member of the Congregational church, and a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M.

Jeremiah Hill, born in 1827 in Plainfield, Conn., is a son of Daniel, whose father Edward Hill, came to Plainfield in 1779, and settled on a farm in the northeast part of the town, which is still in the Hill family. His mother was Abigail (Hall) Hill. Mr. Hill was a farmer in Plainfield until 1867, and at that time he came from there to Danielsonville, where he has done teaming. He was married in 1848 to Freelove Potter, who died in 1850. He was married again in 1851 to Abbie F., daughter of Samuel Bushnell. He is a member of the Congregational church of Westfield.

Mrs. A. Caroline Holbrook is a daughter of Jeremiah and Hannah (Angel) Field, granddaughter of Jeremiah and Lydia (Colwell) Field, and great-granddaughter of Jeremiah Field. She is one of twelve children, nine of whom are now living. She was married in 1860 to John K. Holbrook, born in 1804, in Pomfret, son of Judge John Holbrook. They came to Danielsonville in 1875, having built a residence in Westfield three years previous. He died at his home in 1885. Mrs. Holbrook and her sister Mrs. William S. Alexander, occupy the residence now.

Mathewson Hopkins, born in 1800 in Foster, R. I., is a son of Mathewson, and grandson of Nicholas Hopkins. His mother was Mary Tanner. Mr. Hopkins is a farmer, and came to Killingly from Rhode Island several years ago. He was married in 1820 to Mahala, daughter of Sampson Bennett. They have four children living: William, Darius, Thomas M. and Gilbert. His wife died died in 1872. He was married again in 1874 to Mrs. Sarah Sweet, daughter of Abel Tanner.

Mary Hovey is a daughter of Hollis, and granddaughter of Luther Butts. Daniel A. Hovey, M.D., was born in 1809, and in 1830 he began the practice of medicine in South Killingly, which he continued until his death in October, 1878. Although he had a large practice, he found time to represent the town one year in the legislature, and always took an interest in the politics of the

town. He was a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M. He was married in 1859 to Mary Butts. They had five children: Marian B. W. (Mrs. George Briggs), Charles E. (deceased), Emeline E. (Mrs. William Miller), Jennie E. (Mrs. Merton Gardiner), and Charles A. (deceased).

Daniel S. Hubbard was born in 1819 in Plainfield, Conn. He is a son of Calvin Hubbard, who was ensign in the war of 1812. His father was a soldier in the war of the revolution. It is believed that his name was Calvin Hubbard. His mother's name was Olive, a daughter of Edward Hill. Mr. Hubbard is a farmer. He built a residence in the south part of the village of Danielsonville in 1861, where he now lives. He was married in 1846 to Lydia Ann Hale. She died in 1851. They had two children —Ida O. and Henry C., both deceased. He was married in 1872 to Mary, daughter of Samuel D. Baxter, son of Joseph Baxter, whose father Robert, was a son of Thomas Baxter.

Thomas Hughes, son of Patrick Hughes, was born in 1837 in Ireland, and came to Connecticut when a lad. In 1865 he went West, where he was a farmer for eighteen years, returning to Attawaugan in 1882, where he bought a farm and has since resided. He was married in 1864 to Honora Connor. They have six children: Thomas, James, Daniel, Joseph, Mary and Catharine. Mr. Hughes is a democrat and a member of Dayville Catholic church.

Charles D. James, born in 1845 at Baltic, Conn., is the adopted son of Charles and Lucy (Bushnell) James. He is a farmer. He came to Danielsonville in 1867, and bought the farm where he now lives. For the past five years he has been agent for farm implements and fertilizers. He was married in 1868 to Maria E., daughter of Theodore Hammett. They have seven children: Ida C., Robert R., Lucelia A., Everett, Lyndall, who died in infancy, Eulali E. and Carrie H. He is a spiritualist and a prohibitionist.

Rowland R. James, son of Alanson James, was born in 1838 in Cranston, R. I., and came to Killingly in 1855. He taught school about four years, and was in the war of the rebellion from August 9th, 1862, to July, 1865, in Company K, 18th Connecticut volunteers. He was clerk in a store for two years prior to July, 1867. At that time he, in company with his brother Newman W. James, under the firm name of James Brothers, bought the grocery business of S. Gleason, and five years later they bought

the grocery and crockery business of Christopher Crandall, and moved to the Crandall Block, where they remained five years, and at the end of that time took possession of their present store. In 1883 the firm was dissolved, and since that time it has been R. R. James. Mr. James married in 1866 Olive A. Steere, and has two children—Albert L. and Grace E.

George Jencks was born in 1854. He is a son of Leavens, who was born in 1810, and married Esther Kelly. Four of their six children are now living: Dewitt C. E., Frances, Lucia G. and George, who was bookkeeper for H. & S. Sayles two years at Dayville. Leaving there in 1879, he came to Danielsonville, where he has kept a hardware store since that time. The firm was George Jencks & Co. until September, 1887, since then Jencks & Franklin. He has been warden of the borough one term, in the court of burgesses several terms, and justice five years. He was married to Lucy B. Potter. They have three children: Anna E., William L. and Mildred P. He is a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M., and is a member of the Congregational church. He is a republican. Leavens Jencks was the first station agent at Dayville, was postmaster there for several years, and also judge of probate. He was a merchant.

Hiram M. Jencks, son of James Jencks, was born in 1842 in Slatersville, R. I. He was superintendent of a mill at Arkwright, R. I., seven years. From there he went to Rehoboth, Mass., where he was interested in manufacturing for three years. He came from there to East Killingly in 1884, where he kept a general store for six months, removing the business to Dayville in April, 1885, where he still keeps a general store. He is a member of Assawaga Lodge, No. 20, A. O. U. W., and a member of the Masonic fraternity.

Daniel H. Johnson, born in 1836 in Coventry, R. I., is a son of Henry, and grandson of George Johnson, who was a soldier in the revolutionary war. His mother was Lydia Minerva, daughter of Captain Samuel Cady. Mr. Johnson was brought up a farmer and brick maker, but has worked at the carpenter's trade since 1861. In 1866 he came to Danielsonville from Brooklyn, Conn., and seven years later he built the residence on Reynolds street, where he has since lived. He was married in 1866 to Hannah Maria, daughter of Charles A. Stone of West Greenwich, R. I. He is a republican.

John Kelly was born September 18th, 1821. William Kelly was born in Rhode Island in 1747, came to Killingly in 1789, served in the revolution, and died in 1831. His son Ebenezer was born in 1780, was in the war of 1812, and died in 1864. His wife was Esther, daughter of Nell Alexander. Their youngest son, John, was born in Killingly. He has been in the wood and lumber business for several years. He was in the legislature in 1867 and 1877, and has held several town offices. He has been county commissioner since July, 1886. He was married in 1842 to Eliza A., daughter of Norman Curtiss. They have six children: Helen, Norman H., William P., Mary (deceased), and and George S. and Mary Jane (deceased). Mr. Kelly is a member of Marvin Waite Post, No. 51, G. A. R., a member of the Congregational church, and a republican.

William P. Kelley, son of Hon. John Kelly, was born in 1848 in Killingly. He was in a general store at Versailles, Conn., for three years, and while there was postmaster, and filled other offices. He came to Dayville in 1882, where he kept a general store for about four years, and in March, 1886, he bought the store of M. & A. Wood in Dayville, and consolidated the two stores. He was married in 1876 to Anna, daughter of Reverend A. H. Bennett. They have three children: John B., Mary E. and Helen M. Mr. Kelley has held several town offices, and in 1887 represented the town in the legislature. He is a member of John Lyon Lodge, No. 45, K. of P., and of Assawaga Lodge, No. 20, A. O. U. W. He was in the war of the rebellion.

Lorenzo M. Kennedy, born in 1828 in Foster, R. I., is the seventh son of George, who was the youngest son of Alexander Kennedy. His mother was Selinda Parker. Mr. Kennedy came from Rhode Island to Killingly in 1846. He learned the carpenter's trade, but only followed it a few years. He kept a store for several years. He came to Dayville in March, 1866, and the same year bought the Dayville Hotel, which he managed with livery and sale stable attached until December, 1888, when he sold the business to his son, Frank S. Mr. Kennedy now lives on his farm at Ballouville. He was married in 1851 to Jane Kies. They have four children: Charles P., Frank S., Will L. and Nathan W. He is a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M.

Frank S. Kennedy, son of Lorenzo M., was born in 1853 in Killingly, Conn. He bought the undertaking establishment of

Mowry Amsbury in 1880, and has carried on the business since that time. He was in a market for some time with his brother and father, as mentioned above, and now is a partner in a general store with his brother, Will L. Kennedy. He bought his father's interest in the hotel and livery stable at Dayville in December, 1888. He was married in 1880 to Ada, daughter of Oscar Amsbury. They have one daughter, Ida Jane. He is a member of Assawaga Lodge, No. 20, A. O. U. W.

Will L. Kennedy, son of Lorenzo M., was born in 1858 in Killingly. He was clerk in the store of M. & A. Wood for three years, then in company with his father and brother kept a market at Dayville three years (firm of L. M. Kennedy & Sons). In October, 1886, a partnership between Mr. Kennedy and his brother, Frank S., was formed, and a general store was established at Dayville, which they now run. He was married in 1879 to Susan Twogood, who died in 1882, leaving two daughters, Cora L. and Mary Jane. He was married again in February, 1885, to Alice C., daughter of John Turner. They have one son, Thomas H. Mr. Kennedy is a member of John Lyon Lodge, No. 45, K.of P.

Otis E. Keith was born in 1829 in Thompson, Conn. He is the only son of Captain Joseph D., who was the oldest son of Eleazer Keith, who was lieutenant in the war of 1812. His wife was Kelita Tyler. His father was lost in the revolutionary war, after which Eleazer was adopted by Joseph Demmon, of Massachusetts, who removed later to Thompson. The mother of Otis E. was Lucy, daughter of Silas Bundy, whose father, Ebenezer, once owned a large tract of land, including the mill privilege where the Putnam Manufacturing Company is now located. Mr. Keith is a farmer. He has been president of the Putnam Cemetery Association for six years. He was married in 1859 to Elizabeth Rowland, who died in 1879, leaving one son, Luther M. He was married August 16th, 1880, to Sarah M., daughter of Ezra Howard. They have one daughter, Abbie H. Mr. Keith is a staunch prohibitionist and a member of the Attawaugan Methodist Episcopal church.

Ann Kershaw is a daughter of John and Phœbe (Gregory) Stokes. She was married in 1859 to Robert Kershaw, son of William. Mr. Kershaw was a mill operative and mill superintendent at Burrillville. In 1884, in company with two others, he rented a mill in Burrillville, which they operated until 1886, when Mr.

Kershaw retired on account of ill health. He built a residence in Dayville in 1875, where he died in October, 1886, aged 57 years. He was a member of the Masonic order.

Fannie H. Kies, born in Coventry, R. I., is a daughter of Clark and Eunice (Matteson) Cornell. She was married in 1855 to George Kies, a son of Harris and Sarah Ann (Goodspeed) Kies, and a grandson of William Kies. Mr. Kies was a house carpenter by trade. He enlisted in 1862 as second lieutenant in Company K, 18th Connecticut volunteers, and served until the close of the war. He was promoted to first lieutenant during that time. He died in 1872. They have one son living, Walter E. They lost three children: Lenora A., Leroy E. and Victoria G.

Henry V. Lathrop, born April 9th, 1851, in Norwich, Conn., is a son of Richard S., and grandson of Septimus Lathrop, who was the seventh generation from Reverend John Lathrop, who was educated at Queens College, Cambridge, where he graduated in 1609. His mother was Jane F., daughter of Festus and Eliza Thompson. She died July 7th, 1857, leaving two children, Mary E. and Henry Vaughn. The latter was educated at the public and select schools of Plainfield. He has been engaged in reed manufacturing in Danielsonville since February, 1869. In November, 1870, R. S. Lathrop bought the reed business here, and from that time until his death in May, 1882, Henry V. worked with his father, but since that time he has been manager of the business. He is a prohibitionist. He has been two years in the court of burgesses. He was married October 5th, 1875, to Mary H., daughter of William M. and Elizabeth (Shepard) Johnson. They have three children: Frank E., J. Bessie and Claribel A. Mr. Lathrop is a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M., and a member of the Westfield Congregational church. Mrs. Lathrop is a member of the Baptist church of Danielsonville. She is president of the local W. C. T. U.

George H. Law, born in 1816 in Killingly, is the eldest son of Jeremiah, whose father, George, was a son of George Law. His mother was Hepsibeth, daughter of Ebenezer Leach. Jeremiah Law was born in 1796, was member of the legislature one term and selectman several terms as a democrat, was the father of seven children, and died in 1876. George H. went from Chestnut hill to Rhode Island at the age of seventeen, where he was engaged in cotton manufacturing for twenty-two years. In 1870 he bought the farm where he now resides, and since that time

has been a farmer. He represented the town in the legislature two terms, in 1881 and 1883, as a republican. He was married in 1839 to Clarinda, daughter of Joseph Clark. They have eight children: Jennie (Mrs. C. T. Westcott), George, Sarah Ellen (Mrs. C. G. Mowry), Clara, Carrie (Mrs. E. Jencks), Emma, Joseph and Charles F. George was in the war of the rebellion, 3d Rhode Island Cavalry.

John W. Law was born in 1855 in Killingly. He is a son of Parris M., son of William, son of George, son of George, son of David Law. His mother was Emily (Perry) Law. Mr. Law began as clerk in the Williamsville store in 1876, where he has been since that time.

James K. Logee, son of Elisha Logee, is a baker by trade. In 1840 John Sparks established a bakery where the Central Hotel now stands in Danielsonville. In 1843 he sold the business to James K. Logee, who continued it at the same place until 1860. At that time he built a bakery in Westfield, which burned in February, 1879. It was rebuilt the same year, and since that time the business has been pastry baking; prior to that time it was a cracker factory. He was married in 1844 to Julia N., daughter of John Sparks. They had three sons: James E., William K. and Henry F. His wife died in 1858, and he was married in 1859 to Hannah H. Bruce. She died in 1877, leaving one daughter, Mary S. (Mrs. J. E. F. Brown). He was married in 1881 to Mary Chadwick Babson.

James E. Logee, son of James K. and Julia N. (Sparks) Logee, was born March 6th, 1845. He was brought up a baker, and in 1866 took an interest in the baking business with his father, and since that time they have carried on the business together. He was married in 1866 to Ada S. Tucker, who died one year later. He was married in 1873 to Lucy A., daughter of David B. Wheaton. They have two children: Arthur W. and Lucy T. Mr. Logee is a republican.

Calvin B. Long, born in 1837 in Canterbury, Conn., is a son of William, and grandson of David Long. His mother was Lucy Varnum. Mr. Long came to Danielsonville in 1869, and about four years later bought a blacksmith shop, which he has since operated. He was married in 1857 to Sarah, daughter of David Monroe. Their children are: William Henry, Jennie (Mrs. George Baker), and George. Mr. Long is a democrat. He served about three months in the war of the rebellion in the 3d Connecticut volunteers.

John Mahrs was born in Dublin, Ireland, and came to Massachusetts at the age of four years with his father, John Mahrs. He came to Danielsonville in March, 1858. He is a shoemaker by trade. He was appointed sexton of the Westfield Cemetery in 1877, and built the house where he now lives in 1869. Mr. Mahrs was married January 3d, 1848, to Eliza E., daughter of Waldo Parkhurst. Their children are: Lora J., now Mrs. P. H. Sprague; Susan E., now Mrs. W. K. Logee; John W. and Charlotte H., now Mrs. Henry Thompson. Mr. Mahrs is a prohibitionist. His wife is a member of the Congregational church.

William H. Marland, son of James Marland, was born in England, and came to Killingly in 1881. In 1882 he went back to England, returning again in 1884, and since that time he has been employed in the lumber yards of John A. Paine. He owns a residence on Maple street, known as "the Twin Cottages." He was married in January, 1882, to Hannah King. They have three children: Rupert K., Myrtie E. and Sidney P. They lost one son, Earl. Mr. Marland is a member of Danielsonville Episcopal church, and a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M.

Charles Mason, born in 1841, is a son of David, whose father Shubael, was a son of Peletiah Mason, whose wife was Sarah Allen. His mother is Lucy (Bowen) Mason. Shubael Mason's wife was Nancy Law. David and Lucy Mason had eight children: Israel B., George L. (deceased), Erastus (deceased), Maria F. (deceased), Charles, David A. (deceased), Emily L. (deceased), and William Henry. Charles has been a merchant for a number of years in Providence and other places. For the past few years he has had no business except a little farming. He was married in 1864 to Mary Crabtree, who died the year following. He married in 1868 Mrs. Abbie F. Rice, a daughter of W. R. and Chloe Lillibridge, of Exeter, R. I.

Lucy A. Mason is a daughter of Rufus and Susanna (Round) Simmons. She was married November 16th, 1861, to George L. Mason, son of David and Lucy Mason. He died leaving two daughters—Abbie F. (Mrs. E. M. Young), and Harriet E., who married F. Smith, son of James and Mary Ann (Williams) Smith. He was born in 1856, and works at carding in the Whitestone cotton mills.

William Mathewson was born December 22d, 1825. He is a son of Mason, and grandson of Royal Mathewson, whose wife

was Hepsibeth Mason. His mother was Margaret Taft. Mr. Mathewson is a farmer. He was married September 14th, 1851, to Mary M., daughter of David and Elizabeth Graves, and has one son, William T.

Frank W. Medbery, born in 1857, in Plainfield, Conn., is a son of Nathaniel, whose father Nathaniel, was a son of Nathaniel Medbery. His mother is Susan F., daughter of Sabin L. Hawkins. Mr. Medbery worked in the market of the Wauregan Company at Wauregan eight years. In November, 1881, he bought the meat business of J. P. Dexter in Danielsonville, which he enlarged, until now he keeps a full line of meats and canned goods, doing a business of about $1,500 per month. He was married in 1878 to Nellie J. Johnson.

Esquare B. Miller was born in August, 1827, in Killingly, Conn. He is a son of Welcome and grandson of Peter Miller, whose father was a preacher. His mother was Elsie (Bartlett) Miller. Mr. Miller was a farmer with his father until 1859, and since that time he has been a carpenter. He came to Dayville in 1861 and for fifteen years worked on repairs, both wood and iron, for S. & H. Sayles. Since that time he has been a contractor and builder. He was selectman and clerk of the board for twelve years in succession. He was married in 1846 to Sarah H., daughter of Ephriam Warren. She died in May, 1887, leaving five boys: Chauncy T., Esquare J., Henry J., Everett E. and Fred. L. They lost one in infancy, Daniel W. Mr. Miller is a republican, a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M., and also a member of the Chapter and Council.

Frank Mitchell was born in 1837 in Killingly, Conn. He is the oldest son of Ezekiel, son of Abraham, son of Ezekiel, son of Experience Mitchell, who came from England to Massachusetts in 1649, and whose son, Ezekiel, came to Killingly about 1768. Mr. Mitchell has worked in cotton mills since he was eight and one-half years old, with the exception of five years which he spent in California. He was overseer of weaving at Packerville eleven years. Since August, 1875, he has been superintendent for the Whitestone Manufacturing Company. He was married in 1865 to Susan G. Aynesworth, who died in July, 1875, leaving one daughter, Alice. Mr. Mitchell is a republican.

Orrin D. Mitchell, born in 1819 in Killingly, is a son of Lott and grandson of William Mitchell. His mother was Celinda Martin. He runs a grist mill on the Whetstone brook, between

Killingly Centre and East Killingly, where his father owned a grist and saw mill for many years. He was married in 1845 to Phœbe, daughter of Joseph Hammond. They have four children living: Wesley, Deloss, Oliva and Adelbert. They have lost three: Marcus E., Lovina and Celinda.

Luke Monahan, son of Thomas Monahan, was born in Ireland, came to America in 1850 and one year later came to Almyville, in Plainfield, where he remained until 1879, and for the last five years there he was boss farmer. In May, 1879, he came to Danielsonville, where he has since been overseer of general outdoor work for the Danielsonville Manufacturing Company. He married Ann Hughes and they have six children: Thomas, Michael, Mary, Bridget, James and Nellie.

William A. Newton was born in 1834 in Thompson, Conn., and has resided in Killingly since 1840. In 1859 he opened a store at East Killingly, and continued there until 1862, when he fitted up a store, and moved his business to the valley, one mile west, where he has since remained. He was married in 1854 to Abbie Mowry. She died in 1870, leaving two children, Melissa and Jennie. He was married in 1871 to Esther Gibson, daughter of Ira Gibson of Sterling. He is a democrat.

Joseph Oatley, born in 1816 in South Kingstown, R. I., is a son of Reverend Jonathan, whose father, Joseph, was a son of Jonathan Oatley, who came from England to Rhode Island in 1642. His mother was Amy, daughter of Joseph and Nancy Champlin. He came from South Kingstown with his father to East Killingly in 1834. He is a stone cutter by trade, although he worked in cotton mills several years when a young man. In 1843 he bought a granite ledge which he has worked since that time. He was married in 1838 to Cyntha, daughter of Moses and Sally Taft. They have five children: George W., Edward R., Joseph F., Sarah E. and Alice. Mr. Oatley is a democrat, and has been a member of East Killingly Baptist church for forty-five years.

William H. Oatley, born in 1824 in South Kingstown, R. I., is a son of Reverend Jonathan Oatley. He has been working at cotton manufacturing since boyhood. Since November, 1877, he has been night watchman in Ross' Mill. He has been justice of the peace twenty years in succession, and registrar of voters since 1872. He represented the town in the legislature of 1872 as a republican. He has been twice married, but has no

children. He has been a member of the East Killingly Baptist church since 1838, is a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M., also a member of the Chapter and Council, and a member of Marvin Waite Post, No. 51, G. A. R. He was in the war of the rebellion in Company K, 7th Connecticut volunteers from September, 1861, to August 1865; was made drum-major in February, 1862, which rank he filled until the close of the war.

Charles Paine, born in Killingly, is the eldest son of Lewis Paine and grandson of Joseph Paine. His mother is Lillis, daughter of William Hopkins and granddaughter of Barnett Hopkins. Mr. Paine is a farmer, and with his brother, Frederick A., runs the farm of his father. Since April, 1885, they have run a milk route in Danielsonville. They take great pride in their stock and fowls, which are of the best.

Frederick A. Paine, born in Killingly, is the youngest son of Lewis and Lillis (Hopkins) Paine, and grandson of Joseph and Drusilla (Hopkins) Paine. Mr. Paine's father was in California from 1850 to 1854. In 1857 he bought the farm of 200 acres where he lived until his death in April, 1877, and since that time the two sons have run the farm. Mr. Paine is a fancier of fine stock and poultry, of which he has some thoroughbred specimens. Mr. Paine's father was married in 1855 to Lillis Hopkins, and they had three sons: Charles, William H., who died in 1877, and Frederick A.

Christopher Paine was born in 1816 in Foster, R. I. His father, Joseph Paine, came to Killingly from Rhode Island in 1822. His wife was Drusilla, daughter of Barnett Hopkins. Mr. Paine is the only survivor of a large family. He bought the farm which he now owns in 1848, and twelve years later built the house where he now lives. He was married in 1843 to Miranda, daughter of William Hopkins. They have five children living: Harriet, John, Maria, Alzaida and George. Mr. Paine is a republican, and a member of the Advent church.

James A. Paine, born in 1834 in Massachusetts, is the youngest son of Ransom and grandson of Benjamin Paine. He came to East Killingly in 1857, where he kept a store for about four years, after which time he established a slipper manufactory, which he conducted about three years. He then sold the business and bought, in 1864, the store of A. M. Paine, which he has run since that time with the exception of three years. He was married in 1861 to Mariette Mathews. They have two sons,

James M. and Almond M. In politics Mr. Paine is a republican.

John A. Paine, born in 1850 in Woodstock, Conn., is a son of Martin and grandson of Cyril Paine. His mother was Lucia, daughter of Amos Perrin. Mr. Paine was bookkeeper and salesman for John O. Fox & Co., of Putnam, about five years. In 1877 he came to Danielsonville and in company with John Davenport bought the coal, lumber, fertilizer and builders' supplies business of O. M. Capron & Son. In 1880 the partnership was dissolved and the business divided, Mr. Davenport taking the coal business and Mr. Paine keeping the balance, which he still continues. He was married in 1882 to Fanny, daughter of Charles Dorrance. They have three sons: Everett A., Arthur R. and Wallace M. He is a member of the Congregational church and a republican.

Edwin L. Palmer, born in 1847 in Griswold, Conn., is a son of Asher and Joanna (Ames) Palmer. Asher was in the war of 1812. Mr. Palmer established an insurance and real estate agency in Danielsonville in 1875, which he continued until 1886. In September of that year he sold the insurance business to S. W. Crofut, and since that time he has paid all his attention to real estate and western land securities. He is secretary of the Danielsonville board of trade and was clerk of the borough from 1880 to 1887. He was married in 1871 to Phœbe A. Keach, who died in 1873. He was married in 1880 to Ella M. Kennedy. They have three children: Harry E., Gladdis J. and Charlotte. He is a member of the Congregational church and superintendent of the Sunday school. He is a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M., Warren Chapter, No. 12, and Montgomery Council, No. 2.

Joshua Perkins was born in Lisbon, Conn. He is a son of Charles, son of Joshua, son of Matthew, son of Joseph, son of John, son of John Perkins. His mother was Betsey Payne. Mr. Perkins began to learn dentistry about 1857, and came to Danielsonville in 1863, where he has since practiced. He has control of the state for an electric vibrator for extracting teeth. He was elected warden of the borough of Danielsonville in 1884, 1885 and 1886. He was a delegate to the democratic national convention in Chicago in 1884.

Charles Phillips, born February, 1848, is a son of Charles Phillips, who was a cotton manufacturer. Mr. Phillips was edu-

cated at the schools of Douglass, Mass. He was head clerk in a store in Sutton, Mass., for nine years, then had charge of one of the stores of B. B. & R. Knight in Rhode Island for one year, coming from there in the spring of 1875 to Danielsonville, where he has had general charge of the store and grist mill of the Quinebaug Manufacturing Company since that time. He has been several years a member of the court of burgesses in the borough of Danielsonville. He was married in April, 1868, to Sarah M., daughter of Benjamin Abbott. They have two boys: Charles A. and William A. Mr. Phillips is a republican. He has been deacon of the Westfield Congregational church since March, 1888.

Christopher C. Pilling, born in 1848, in Smithfield, R. I., is a son of Reuben Pilling, who came from England about 1844. His mother was Ann Withington. Mr. Pilling began learning the carpenter's trade at the age of sixteen, and with the exception of three years which he devoted to painting, he has followed that business as a contractor and builder. He was married in June, 1873, to Ellen M., daughter of Joseph Wheaton. They have one daughter, Maud W., and one that died, Bertha M. Mr. Pilling is a deacon in the Baptist church here, and has acted in several official capacities in the church, and also in the Sunday school. He is a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M.

Albert S. Potter, son of Asa Potter, was born in 1815 in Thompson, Conn. His mother is Ruth, daughter of Edward Stafford. Mr. Potter worked at cotton manufacturing for several years. In 1870 he came to Dayville, and since 1875 has been boss farmer for the Sabin L. Sayles Manufacturing Company. He was married in 1838 to Eliza, daughter of Nathan Young. They had four children: Emily A. (Mrs. Samuel Cogswell), Alonzo A., Frank W. (deceased), and one that died in infancy. His wife died in 1852. He was married again in 1859 to Mrs. Almira Sweet, daughter of Leonard Williams. She has practiced medicine for several years.

Alfred Potter, son of Olney E., and grandson of William Potter, was born in 1823 in Foster, R. I. His mother was Orra (Cole) Potter. Mr. Potter came from Rhode Island to Killingly in 1848. He worked in the woolen mill of H. and S. Sayles about ten years. Then in company with Warren Potter, under the firm name of A. & W. Potter, he bought the Elmville mill property, which was built by Jonathan and Marvin Dexter, and operated the

same until August, 1874, when the mill was destroyed by fire. The same year the brick mill was built in its place, and the manufacture of fancy cassimeres was continued until 1883. The property was sold in 1886 to C. D. & C. S. Chase, and since that time Mr. Potter has been a farmer. He was married in 1860 to Maria, daughter of Stephen S. Pierce, who was a son of Thomas Pierce. Mr. Potter built his present residence in 1872.

Alonzo B. Potter was born in 1832 in Scituate, R. I. He is a son of Robert N., son of Robert, son of Moses, son of Robert, son of Ralph, whose father John was a son of Robert Potter, who came to Rhode Island in 1630 and died in 1661. Mr. Potter came from Rhode Island to Killingly in 1849 with his father, who was a spool and bobbin manufacturer in Williamsville from that time until his death, April 26th, 1878. He had charge of a store at Dayville two years, 1856–7, then was a farmer until August, 1862, when he enlisted in Company K, 18th Connecticut volunteers, serving until July, 1865. Since that time he has been a farmer, with the exception of five years, when he had charge of the Williamsville store. He was married in 1854 to Lucy A., daughter of Lawton Wade. They have one daughter, Alice J. (Mrs. F. W. Young, of Providence). Mr. Potter is a republican, and a member of Williamsville Congregational church.

Minnie N. Potter is a daughter of Robert Nelson and Rhoda (Parker) Potter, the latter a daughter of Joseph Parker. She is a sister of Alonzo B. Potter, mentioned above. Miss Potter lives in the house where her father lived from 1849 until his death in 1878. Her mother died in August, 1887. Robert N. Potter was a captain in the Dorr rebellion of Rhode Island, and afterward was made colonel in the state militia.

Charles T. Preston was born in 1848 in Killingly, Conn. He is a son of Charles, born in 1804, son of Levi, son of Daniel, a son of Levi Preston, who was a Scotchman. His mother is Eliza A., daughter of George Tyler. Charles T. is a house painter by trade. He was on the board of assessors two terms, and represented the town in the general assembly in 1884 as a democrat. Mr. Preston's father was married to Eliza A. Tyler. They have three children living: Lamira, Emeline F. and Charles T. Mr. Preston is a farmer. He lives on the Spaulding homestead on "Horse Hill." He taught school several terms when a young man. He was representative in 1846, and has been justice and selectman.

Frank T. Preston, son of Enos L. Preston, was born in 1853 in Brooklyn. He is a jeweler and watchmaker by trade. He came to this town in 1879, and November 3d, 1881, the firm of Preston & Carpenter was established. They bought the business of Amasa Dowe, which they still conduct. Mr. Preston was elected town treasurer October 5th, 1885, and on the 22d of the same month was appointed town clerk, which offices he has held since that time. He is president of the People's Library Association, treasurer of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M., Warren Chapter, No. 12, and of Montgomery Council, No. 2. He was married in 1885 to F. Myrtie Chase. They have one daughter, Florence C. Mr. Preston is a member of the Baptist church, a deacon, and superintendent of the Sunday school.

Albert D. Putnam, born in 1852 in Brooklyn, Conn., is a son of William H. Putnam, and is the fourth generation removed from General Putnam. Mr. Putnam's early education was in the schools of Brooklyn and Danielsonville, and later he attended the state Normal school. He taught school for eight consecutive winters. He was a farmer until 1888, and since that time has lived in Danielsonville, where he intends to engage in mercantile business as soon as his health will permit. He was married in December, 1876, to Harriet, daughter of Charles and Janette (Sharp) Dorrance. They have three children: William H., Sarah J. and Eliza D. Mr. Putnam is a member of the Episcopal church, a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M., and a member of Brooklyn Grange, No. 43, P. of H.

Royal C. Rawson, born in 1850 in Brooklyn, Conn., is a son of Daniel C., and grandson of Reverend Nathaniel Rawson. His mother is Eliza Copeland. Mr. Rawson is a farmer. He came to Danielsonville in December, 1877, where he runs a milk route. He was married January 1st, 1878, to Emily Martin, and has two sons—George R. and Walter A. He is a member of the Congregational church and a republican.

Nelson M. Reynolds, born in 1833 in Glocester, R. I., is a son of Orrin, and grandson of James Reynolds. He is a mason by trade. In September, 1868, he established a general store at East Killingly, which he still operates. He has been postmaster at East Killingly since October, 1885, has been assessor, member of the board of relief, selectman, and registrar of voters. He is a democrat. He was married January 1st, 1857, to Julia A., daughter of John White.

Arnold P. Rich was born in 1858 in Killingly. He is a son of Alfred, whose father, Rufus, was a son of David Rich. His mother was Alma A., daughter of Mowry P. Arnold, M. D. He was educated at the schools of East Killingly and Danielsonville, and has taught school continuously since 1881. He was married in 1885 to Emma L., daughter of Charles A. Potter, son of Stephen H. Potter. Her mother is Phœbe A., daughter of Israel Chase. Mrs. Rich is also a teacher. Mr. Rich is a member of the Free Will Baptist church of East Killingly.

Sabin L. Sayles was born in Pascoag, R. I., February 8th, 1827. He is a son of Nicholas Sayles, who was for many years a manufacturer of farming implements in Pascoag, R. I. Mr. Sayles received only a common school education. He entered a woolen mill at the age of fifteen years, and about one year later entered his father's factory, where he served three years. He came to Killingly in 1853, and five years later to Dayville, where Mr. Sayles' residence now is. Since being in Connecticut he has been connected with manufacturing, which is mentioned elsewhere. He was on the electoral ticket of Connecticut in 1864, and he was delegate to the national republican conventions of 1868 and 1872. In 1870 he was on Governor Jewell's staff with rank of colonel, and as a republican he has exerted a wide influence.

William H. Sayles, born March 10th, 1841, is a son of Harris C. Sayles, who, in company with A. Potter, took up a mill privilege west of Elmville, where a shoddy mill was built and run for a short time. Then Mr. Sayles bought Mr. Potter's interest and increased the business, and later began the manufacture of satinet goods. W. H. Sayles then took the business and conducted it about ten years, changing the production in the meantime from satinets to fancy cassimeres. Since 1880 he has rented the mill and machinery to T. E. Hopkins. He was married in 1863 to Phœbe S., daughter of James S. Cook, of Burrillville, R. I. They have two sons, James H. and Walter E. Mr. Sayles is a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M., and a member of John Lyon Lodge, No. 45, K. of P.

Frank U. Scofield, born in Killingly in 1858, is a son of U. B. Scofield, who came from New York to Killingly about thirty years ago. His mother is Abbie J. Young. Mr. Scofield is a printer. He worked on *The Transcript* for J. Q. A. Stone nine years. Since March, 1882, he has been in the job printing busi-

ness in Danielsonville. He built a residence on Cottage street in 1381, where he now resides. He has been steward in the Danielsonville Methodist Episcopal church four years, and Sunday school superintendent two years. He was married in 1882 to Ina W., daughter of Daniel Main. He is a member of Ætna Lodge, No. 21, A. O. U. W.

A. G. Scranton, born May 18th, 1833, is a son of Samuel and grandson of Fones Scranton. He is a painter by trade, having followed the business here about twenty years. He enlisted in August, 1862, in Company K, 18th Connecticut volunteers, and served until the close of the war as second lieutenant. In 1880 he bought the marble and granite works of William P. Adams' estate, which business he has since conducted. He was married in 1857 to Elizabeth Macomber, who died in 1886. They had two children: Fannie M. (Mrs. George L. Wilson, of St. Paul, Minn.) and Samuel (deceased). Mr. Scranton is a democrat, and a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M.

Job F. Seamans was born in 1846 in Scituate, R. I. He is a son of Silas, whose father, Job, was a son of Thomas Seamans. His mother was Alvira, daughter of Joseph Cole. Mr. Seamans is a shoe manufacturer. His father started a shoe factory in East Killingly, which he conducted until his death in 1883, under the firm name of S. Seamans & Son. Since 1883 the firm has been J. F. Seamans & Co. In 1887 the business was moved to Mechanic street, Danielsonville, where it is still running, with from eighteen to twenty hands. Mr. Seamans was a member of the legislature in 1878, and again in 1886. He was married in 1869 to Rosa, daughter of Frank McGrindy. They have two daughters, Nora F. and Ellie. He is a member of the Congregational church, a republican, a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M., and a prominent member of the order.

Albert E. Shippee, born in 1844 in Foster, R. I., is a son of Philip and grandson of Anthony Shippee. His mother was Dorcas, daughter of Caleb Simmons. Mr. Shippee came from Rhode Island to Williamsville in 1859, and with the exception of a few years he has worked for the Williamsville Manufacturing Company, having been for seventeen years overseer of spinning. He was in the war of the rebellion from December, 1863, to October, 1865, in Company D, 1st Connecticut volunteers, and was promoted from private to sergeant in April, 1864. He was married in 1863 to Fannie Keene, and has one daughter. He is a member

of McGregor Post, No. 27, G. A. R. He started a livery stable in 1873, which he still runs.

Willis H. Shippee, Jr., born in 1864, is a son of Willis H. and grandson of Robert, whose father, Willard, was a son of Esek Shippee. His mother, Laura, is a daughter of Lebbeus Graves, son of David, son of Eseker, son of Lebbeus Graves. Willis H., Jr., was educated in the schools of Killingly, took a commercial course at Eastman's College and has since been a teacher. He was married in December, 1885, to Ida C., daughter of Cyrus Mitchell, son of Zebedee, son of William, son of Zebedee Mitchell.

Daniel S. Shumway, born in 1809 in Killingly, is a son of Noah and grandson of Peter Shumway. His mother was Lucy, daughter of Thomas Dyke. Mr. Shumway resided in Burrillville, R. I., from the age of four years until 1870, when he returned to Killingly, where he was station agent at Dayville for twelve years for the Norwich & Worcester railroad. Since 1882 he has lived retired. He was married in 1839 to M. Rebecca, daughter of Samuel Stiness, a sea captain, who was born in 1775 and died in 1816. She died in 1864, leaving five children: Henry H., James D., Sarah S. (Mrs. Benjamin Cogswell), Mary D. (now the widow of John Stokes) and Rebecca L.

Almeda Simmons is a daughter of Stephen and Nancy (Law) Smith, the latter a daughter of George Law. She is a granddaughter of Jeremiah and Joanna (Wilkinson) Smith. She married William Simmons, a son of Robert Simmons. He was a farmer and stone cutter, living in Foster, R. I., until his death. Since 1884 Mrs. Simmons has lived at East Killingly.

Alfred N. Smith was born in 1856 in Columbus, Ga. He is a son of Benoni, whose father, John, was a son of Doctor John Smith. His mother was Mary A., daughter of Silas Bailey. Mr. Smith worked in a store in Plainfield about four years. He came to Danielsonville and bought a residence in 1887, and fitted up one part for a store, where he does a general grocery and flour, feed and grain business. He was married in 1881 to Hattie, daughter of A. H. Bennett, of Canterbury. They have one daughter, Susie B. Mr. Smith is a republican and a member of the Baptist church of Danielsonville.

Russell F. Smith, born in 1860 in Killingly, is the youngest son of John and grandson of John Smith. His mother was Susan, daughter of Henry Fenner. He was for seven years sales-

man in the Attawaugan store, and for the last year he has been travelling salesman for a bakery firm of Hartford. He was married in 1882 to Carrie, daughter of William Tarbox. He is a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M.

Henry Sparks was born in 1812 in Killingly. He is a son of Henry W., who was in the war of 1812, and died in 1886, aged 94 years. He was the son of John and grandson of Samuel Sparks. The mother of Henry was Lois, daughter of Abner Day. Mr. Sparks is a farmer and has lived in the house that he now occupies since 1815. He was married in 1838 to Lydia Ann, daughter of Jonathan and Loraina (Sparks) Aldrich. They have twelve children: Mary A., William H. H., Charlotta A., Lois D., Cassius M. C., Cassius M., John Q. A., Lurena B., Laura R., Julius A., Lilla N. and George W. I. Mr. Sparks is a republican.

P. H. Sprague, born in 1832 in Scotland, Conn., is a son of William B. and Joanna (Hutchins) Sprague, grandson of Samuel and Ruhama (Borden) Sprague, and great-grandson of Daniel and Selah (Wadsworth) Sprague. His great-great-grandparents were Thomas and Susanna Sprague. According to the records, she joined the South Killingly church in 1776. Mr. Sprague's mother, Joanna, was a daughter of Penuel Hutchins, M. D., a son of Ezra, whose father, John, was a son of Nicholas Hutchins, who came from England to Groton, Mass., in 1670. Mr. Sprague has been a carpenter for about thirty years. He was married in 1871 to Lora J., daughter of John Mahrs. He is a republican, a member of the Westfield Congregational church, and a member of the Masonic order.

Clara B. Stokes is a daughter of John Stokes, who was born in Wiltshire, England, in 1817, came to Providence, R. I., in 1848, and thence to Pascoag, R. I., where he worked for a manufacturing company for seventeen years. He came from there to Dayville in January, 1866, where for about ten years he was in the employ of the Sayles Manufacturing Company. He was married in 1836 to Phebe, daughter of John Gregory. The names of their seven living children are: Ann (Mrs. Robert Kershaw), Elizabeth (Mrs. E. K. Spaulding), Sarah J. (Mrs. H. Hanks), Fannie (Mrs. A. P. Bennett), Emeline (Mrs. I. L. Blanchard), Charlotte A. (Mrs. Dr. A. E. Darling) and Clara B. Stokes. They lost seven children: John, Elizabeth, Maria, Elnora, Mary E., Lillian M. and Lily E. Miss Stokes is an enthusiastic temperance worker, as is also her father.

Joseph W. Stone was born in November, 1830, in Massachusetts. He is a son of Reverend George, whose father, Joseph, was a son of George Stone. His mother was Olive, daughter of George and Betsey (Adams) Cundall, of Brooklyn, Conn. Mr. Stone is a harness maker by trade. He had charge of the harness department of L. M. Dean's works at Woodstock for eighteen years prior to 1871. At that time he came to Danielsonville and established a harness store, which he has since conducted. He has been justice since 1878. He was married in 1852 to Caroline A. Leach, of Putnam, Conn. They have one son, George M., and one daughter that died—Ella C. Mr. Stone has been a deacon of the Congregational church about ten years.

Warren Taft was born in 1817 in Burrillville, R. I. He is the oldest son of Moses, whose father, Moses, was a son of Myaman Taft. His mother was Sally (Ballard) Taft. He is a carpenter by trade. He came from Rhode Island to East Killingly in 1843, where he has lived since that time. He had charge of the building of the Whitestone Cotton Mill, in 1856, and had charge of repairs there until 1870. In September of that year he was made superintendent of the Ross Mill, where he continued until August, 1886, and since that time he has been a farmer. He was married in 1840 to Almira, daughter of Reverend Jonathan Oatley. They have two daughters: Almira E. and Mary J. Mr. Taft is a republican.

Israel G. Tefft, born in 1823 in Exeter, R. I., is a son of Jonathan, and grandson of Sprague Tefft. His mother was Mary, daughter of Israel Gates. Mr. Tefft is a farmer. In 1850 he went from Exeter, R. I., to Norwich, Conn., where he was a farmer until 1874, when he removed to Danielsonville and has been engaged in gardening and small fruit raising. Mr. Tefft was deacon of the Baptist church of Baltic about fifteen years. He has been deacon of the Danielsonville Baptist church about thirteen years. He was married in 1846 to Elcea M. Wilcox. They had three children: Mathew and Susan (twins, deceased), and William J. Mrs. Tefft died in 1871, and one year later Mr. Tefft was married to Mrs. Sarah Grant. Mr. Tefft is a staunch prohibitionist and an ardent worker in the temperance cause.

Hugh Thompson, born in 1852, is a son of James and Mary J. Thompson, and grandson of William Thompson. He was for several years with S. & H. Sayles, and has been with T. E. Hop-

kins since 1881. Since October, 1886, he has been overseer of weaving. He was married in July, 1872, to Almira M., daughter of Cyrus Mitchell. They have five children: Albert, Charles, Martha J., Benjamin and Ernest. Mr. Thompson is a member of St. Alban's church of Danielsonville, and a member of John Lyon Lodge, No. 45, K. of P.

William H. Tyler, born in 1848 in Middleton, Mass., is the son of Allison and Abigail (Wilkins) Tyler. In February, 1869, Mr. Tyler came to Danielsonville, where he had charge of the stitching department of the shoe factory of Abner Young for four years. He was afterward clerk for the James Brothers for eight years. He had charge of the "Moss Mills" store of Putnam for about six years. In April, 1887, he opened a grocery store on Furnace street, which he has run since that time. He was married in June, 1879, to Lucinda M., daughter of Ezra Allen. They have one son, Harry D. He is a member of the Danielsonville Baptist church and a republican.

Isaac Wade, born in 1818 in Rhode Island, is the youngest son of Charles, whose father Isaac, was a son of Nathaniel Wade. His mother was Sarah, daughter of Jonathan Pray. He was a cotton mill operative for about forty years, and for the last ten years has been a farmer. He was married in 1841 to Sylvia Young, who died leaving four children: Emily, Otis, Clovis and Charles. He was married again to Juliette Edson in 1863. They have four children: John, Fred, Nancy and Maud. Mr. Wade is a prohibitionist and a member of East Killingly Baptist church.

John Waldo, born in 1826 in Canterbury, Conn., is a son of Rufus, and grandson of John E. Waldo. His mother was Harriet, daughter of Simon Shepard. Mr. Waldo was brought up on a farm with his father. He taught school eight winters. About 1852, in company with his brother Simon S., he went into a variety store in Danielsonville. In 1861 they built a new block on the same site where their old store stood. Since 1870 they have dealt principally in flour and grain. Mr. Waldo was a member of the legislature in 1884. He was married in 1846 to Lydia, daughter of Elijah Rathbon. He has been a director in the Windham County National Bank for about twenty years, and a deacon in the Congregational church about thirty years. He is a republican.

Anthony D. Warren was born in 1820. He is a son of Dyer, whose father Eleazar, was born in 1760, and bore the same name as his father, who was representative in the general assembly in 1775. He was the son of Eleazar, and grandson of Ephraim Warren, who died in 1747, and was buried on Breakneck hill, in Killingly. Mr. Warren followed teaching as a profession until 1856, and since that time he has been a farmer. He was on the school committee three years, and selectman seven years, as a republican.

Lysander Warren, born in 1815 in Killingly, is a son of Dyer and Minerva (Durfee) Warren. Mr. Warren is a farmer. He came from Killingly Centre to his present residence in 1847. He has been on the school board about thirty years, and justice for about the same length of time. He was representative in the legislature in 1858, 1868 and 1878. He was married in 1844 to Marcia, daughter of James Mason. They have one daughter living, Angie V., now Mrs. Charles A. Perkins, and two that died, Josephine and Emma. He is a republican.

Edward L. Warren was born in 1824 in Killingly. He is a son of Artemas, and grandson of Eleazar. His mother was Sarah Cleveland. Mr. Warren is the youngest of six children. He is a farmer, owning and occupying a farm that has been in the Warren family for several generations. He built the house where he now lives in 1873. He was married in 1844 to Lucretia, daughter of Jonathan Parkhurst. They have five children: Lewis J., Lucius A., Frank P., Henry C. and Anna L. Mr. Warren is a democrat.

Frank P. Warren, born in 1852, is a son of E. L. Warren. His education was obtained in the public schools of the town. He is a farmer, although he has paid considerable attention to the wood and lumber business. He was three years selectman, and in 1884 was representative in the legislature. He was married in 1879 to Rose, daughter of William Ross. They have one son, Ernest R.

Henry C. Warren, born in 1855 in Killingly, is a son of E. L. Warren. He was educated at Danielsonville high school. His musical education was principally with H. L. Aynesworth, of Worcester. He began to teach music in 1874, and has from fifty to seventy pupils. He was married March 18th, 1879, to Emma E., daughter of Willard Barber, and has one son, Edmund L. He and his wife are members of the First Baptist church of Dan-

ielsonville, and he is a member of Ætna Lodge, No. 21, A. O. U. W.

Joseph W. Warren, born May, 1844, is the eldest son of Lester R., whose father, Ephraim, was a son of Ephraim Warren. His mother was Tabitha E., daughter of Joseph Arnold. He was educated at the public schools of the town of Killingly, and has taught school since 1870. He was married in 1870 to Isabelle M., daughter of Jonathan Young. They have two children, Eva L. and Milton S. Mr. Warren is a republican and a member of the East Killingly Free Will Baptist church.

Daniel R. Weaver was born in 1814 in Coventry, R. I. He is the only surviving son of Joseph, whose father, Jonathan, was a son of Joseph Weaver. His mother was Anna Greene, and his grandmother was Elsie (Weaver) Weaver. Mr. Weaver is a farmer. He came from Coventry, R. I., to Killingly in 1862. He was married in 1837 to Betsey A. Austin. She died leaving one son, Charles H., of California. He was married a second time October 7th, 1879, to Phœbe, daughter of Benjamin Tillinghast, of West Greenwich, R. I., and granddaughter of Benjamin Tillinghast. He is a member of the Free Will Baptist church, and a republican.

George Warren Webster, born in April, 1832, in Pomfret, is the eldest son of Ezekiel, who was born in 1805 and died in 1868, grandson of John and Sarah (Pease) Webster, and great-grandson of John Webster, who went from Massachusetts to Maine, where most of the family now live. His mother was Esther (Cudworth) Webster. Mr. Webster was educated in district and select schools. He came to Dayville with his father in 1842, his father having built the Dayville Hotel prior to that time. He started an axe and pick handle factory here about 1860, and a short time later began to deal in lumber, coal and grain, which business he still continues. He took charge of the Killingly post office January 25th, 1886, having been appointed the September previous. He was married to Nancy Sabin, who died in 1856. He married for his second wife Ellen L., daughter of Horace Woodard. She died in 1879, leaving one son, George W., Jr. He was married again in 1879 to a daughter of Chester Carder. He is a prominent Mason, having attained to the degree of knight.

John E. Webster, brother of George W. Webster mentioned above, was born in 1840. He was an iron broker in Hartford

from 1865 to 1883, and since that time he has lived at Dayville, where he owns and operates a small farm. He was married in 1864 to Amanda E., daughter of George Eddy, who was a son of Amasa Eddy, who was a nominee for lieutenant governor of Rhode Island in 1842, with Thomas W. Dorr for governor. His mother was Mary A., daughter of Captain Smith Mowry, of Rhode Island. They have four children: John E., Jr., Lillian E., Mary E. and Alice E. He is a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M., and also member of Washington Commandery, No. 1, of Hartford.

John Welch, son of Martin Welch, was born in 1817 in Ireland, and came from there to Killingly about 1848, where he has since lived. Since 1880 he and his son Louis have kept a livery and teaming stable at Attawaugan. He was married in 1852 to Elizabeth Wright, who died leaving two children—William and Mary Ann. He was married again in 1862 to Sarah Cassidy. They have one son—Louis T. Mr. Welch is a democrat.

Ludentia A. Weld and Harriet N. Whitmore were born in Killingly. They are daughters of Reverend Roswell Whitmore, who was born in 1787 in Ashford. He was pastor of the Congregational church of Westfield from 1813 to 1843, and afterward was pastor of a branch of the same church at Dayville eight years. He was a son of Jacob and Hannah (Brown) Whitmore. Mr. Whitmore was married November 4th, 1813, to Avis, daughter of Shubael Hutchins. They had four daughters: Frances M. and Abbie R., deceased; and Harriet N. and Ludentia A., who now live in the same house where their parents began housekeeping and lived the most of their lives. Ludentia A. was married in 1838 to S. L. Weld. They had two children, Roswell W., of Chicago, and Harriet F. (Mrs. Reverend Joseph Danielson). Mr. Weld died in 1865. He was teacher of a select school for about twenty years. He was a deacon of the Congregational church.

David B. Wheaton.—Lucas Wheaton, of Swansea, Mass., was the father of Resolved Wheaton, who with his wife Zerviah (Buck) Wheaton, settled on a farm in the north part of the town, where the family now lives, at which place their youngest son, David B., was born in 1810. He married in 1834, Almira J., daughter of James Pratt. They had six children: George Henry, Sarah J., Sabra W., Lucy A., and two that died—George R. and Lucas R. George Henry is a carpenter by trade, al-

though he spends a part of each year working on the farm with his father. Sarah J. is a teacher, having taught fifty-two terms of school.

William H. Williams was born in 1846 in Foster, R. I. He is a son of Henry D. and grandson of Xerxes, whose father, Squire Williams, was great-grandson of Roger Williams. His mother was Lovina, daughter of Robert Simmons. Mr. Williams is a miller, and was seven years in the Attawaugan grist mill. In December, 1879, he came to Danielsonville, where he has since run the grist mill for the Quinebaug Manufacturing Company. He built a fine residence on Maple street, in Danielsonville, in 1884. He was married in 1874 to Lydia A., daughter of Lucius and Sabra (Bowen) Horton. They have two sons: Charles W. and Lucius B. Mr. Williams is a prohibitionist.

Bertha L. Wilson is the only daughter of Seth Wilson, who was a son of Zadeck and Ann (Robinson) Wilson, the latter a daughter of Seth Robinson. Seth Wilson married Emily Curtis, who died shortly after. He later married Ellen M. Lee, who was the mother of his two children: George L., now a resident of St. Paul, Minn., and Bertha L. Seth was a farmer and owned and occupied the homestead where his father settled about 1815. He died in 1864, and Ellen M., his wife, died in 1883.

Wesley Wilson was born August 26th, 1844, in Eastford, Conn. He is a son of Orrin, who was the youngest son of Charles Wilson. His mother is Amanda Havens. Mr. Wilson began in the mercantile business in 1867 in Putnam, as salesman for J. W. Manning, where he remained about fourteen years. He was then six years bookkeeper for the Quinebaug store in Danielsonville. In 1887 he took charge of two stores for the Attawaugan Manufacturing Company where he now is. He was married in 1868 to Emily E. Briggs. They have one daughter, Nellie A. Mr. Wilson is a member of Ætna Lodge, No. 21, A. O. U. W., a republican and a member of the Danielsonville Congregational church.

Julius F. Winkelman, son of Charles Winkelman, was born in 1837 in Germany, and came to this country in 1865. He lived at Mystic, Conn., until 1872, when he came to Danielsonville. In 1876 he started a shoe store and shoe shop of his own in the Central Hotel block, where he continued until 1888, when he divided the business into two stores, his son, Charles, taking charge of one. He learned his trade in the old country. He was married

in 1868 to Dinah G[illegible]. They have four children: Charles, Augusta, Julius and [illegible]k.

Alton E. Withington, son of Edwin and Abbie A. Withington, was born in 1853 in Massachusetts. He is a photographer, having learned the art at Milford, Mass. January 1st, 1874, he bought the business of E. B. Slator, and since that time has continued in the business in Danielsonville. He was married June 15th, 1876, to Ida M., daughter of William E. and Philippa Graham. They have one daughter, Orcilla. William Graham was in the war of the rebellion in Company G, 1st Connecticut Heavy Artillery, and was promoted from private to first lieutenant. He was a carriage painter by trade. He died several years since.

Marcus Wood was born in 1834 in Killingly. He is a son of Olney M., son of Levi, son of Aaron, whose father, Noah, was a son of John Wood, who came from England to Swansea, Mass. His mother is Dorcas, daughter of Jeremiah and Dorcas Young. Mr. Wood was interested in mercantile business for eleven years in different places prior to 1867. At that time he in company with his brother bought a general store at Dayville, which they ran until 1886. He was postmaster at Killingly about seventeen years. He has been a music teacher for about twenty years, and since 1886 has devoted his time to music. He has led the singing in the Congregational church here for fifteen years. He was married in 1854 to Ellen E., daughter of Lott Mitchell. She died in May, 1887. He is a member of Moriah Lodge, No. 15, F. & A. M.

Amariah Wood, son of Olney M. Wood, was born in 1840 in Killingly. He was educated in the schools of Killingly. In 1859 he came to Dayville, where he was clerk in the store of Sayles & Potter until 1867. At that time he in company with his brother Marcus Wood, bought the business and continued in the same until 1886, when they sold out to William P. Kelley. Mr. Wood has been bookkeeper for Kennedy Brothers for the past year.

Simon H. Wooddell, born in Foster, R. I., in 1844, is a son of James B. and grandson of William Wooddell. He bought the grocery department of the store of J. A. Paine at Chestnut Hill in 1875, where he continued until 1885. He took possession of a farm on the road from Ballouville to Chestnut Hill in June,

1887, where he has lived since that time. He was married in 1870 to Flora M., daughter of Job W. Hill.

Wheeler W. Woodward was born in 1834 in Brooklyn, Conn. He is a son of Augustus and Caroline (Wheeler) Woodward, grandson of Ward and Rebecca (Putnam) Woodward, and great-grandson of Ephraim and Huldah (Cram) Woodward. Ephraim was a son of John, Jr., and Hannah (Hyde) Woodward, whose parents were John and Rebecca (Robbins) Woodward, whose father, George Woodward, was born in England in 1621; his father, Richard Woodward, was born in 1589 in England, and came from there with his family in 1634 to Watertown, Mass. John, Jr., above mentioned, came from Massachusetts to Canterbury, Conn., about 1710, settling on a farm which remained in the Woodward family until 1880. Mr. Woodward's grandfather, Ward, served in the war of the revolution, Mr. Woodward purchased the drug business of Crandall & Ladd in Danielsonville in 1868, which he has carried on since. He was married in 1865 to Anna Ross. They have three children: Mary I., Arthur P. and William F. Mr. Woodward is a member of the Baptist church of Danielsonville, and has been clerk and treasurer of the same for several years. He is a republican.

Abner Young, son of Israel Young, was born in 1819 in Killingly. He began the carpenter's trade at the age of 19, working at it seventeen years. Then he ran a shoe factory for seventeen years. In 1874 the firm of H. S. Young & Co. was established, Abner Young being the junior partner. In 1884 H. S. Young died, and since that time Abner has carried on the clothing business alone. Mr. Young was representative in the legislature in 1873. He has been warden of the borough two years. He was married in 1842 to Emily Baker. She died in 1857, leaving three children: Henry S., George W. and Eugene. He married Juliette Westcott in 1858. They had two children: Clarence W., who died, and J. Emily. Mr. Young is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and holds the office of trustee and steward. He is a republican.

Abner S. Young was born January 11th, 1855, in Killingly. He is a son of Jonathan, whose father, Israel, was a son of Othaniel Young. His mother is Janette, daughter of Israel Dorman. At the age of seventeen years he began to learn the carpenter's trade, which he has followed since that time. For the last five years he has been a contractor and builder. He was married in

1877 to Clara, da er of John Dexter, son of Marvin A., who was a son of Jos a descendant from Gregory Dexter, who came to Providen 1643. He was the fourth pastor of the First Baptist chur America. They have one son, Earl A. D. Mr. Young is a ublican.

Charles E. Youn n in May, 1849, is a son of Guilford and grandson of Othan Young. Mr. Young is a carpenter by trade. In 1877 he to harge of the Windham Company's grist mill at Attawaugan, h he has run since that time. He was married in 1870 to Mary E., daughter of Stephen Tripp. She died April 10th, 1886. They had three children: Lily May (deceased), Frank E. and C. Fred. He is a member of Assawaga Lodge, No. 20, A. O. U. W., a member of John Lyon Lodge, No. 45, K. of P., and a member of the Congregational church of Brooklyn. He is a republican.

Ezra H. Young, born in 1818 in Sterling, Conn., is a son of Stephen, whose father was Jonah Young. His mother was Margaret (Bennett) Young. Mr. Young in 1865 bought a farm in the north part of the town where he has since resided. He was married in 1843 to Laura Burgess. She died in 1852, leaving two children: Ellen M. and Emerzetta. He was married in 1854 to Mrs. Mary Brown, daughter of Jacob Burgess. He is a democrat.

Jonah S. Young, born in 1809, is a son of Zephaniah, whose father, Jonah, was a son of Elder Asa Young. Mr. Young is a farmer. He was married in 1830 to Marcy Colvin, who died in 1833. He was married in 1834 to Maria O. Hubbord, who died in 1836. He was married in 1837 to Laura Spaulding. They have had eleven children, all of whom have died. Labin Harrington, born in 1824, is a son of Zephaniah, whose father, William, was a son of Amos Harrington. He has lived for the last thirty years with Mr. Jonah S. Young.

Jonathan Young, born in 1818 in Killingly, is a son of Israel and grandson of Othaniel Young. His mother was Margaret (Chase) Young. He is a farmer, having lived at his present home since 1848. He was married in 1843 to Janette Dorman, who died in 1877. They had eight children, four of whom are living: Isabel M., Abner S., Emily J. and Charles W.

Maxey W. Young, oldest son of William Young, was born in 1839. His mother is Amy, daughter of Arnold Watson. Mr. Young was a farmer and mill operative until 1862. In August

of that year he enlisted in Company K, 18th Connecticut volunteers, and served until June, 1864, when he was discharged on account of disability. Since 1864 he has been a farmer and mill operative. He was two years in Knoxville, Tennessee, helping set up and start a cotton mill in 1886 and 1887. He was married in 1874 to Eleanor, daughter of William Warren, and has one daughter, Josephine H. He is a republican, although he had formerly been a democrat. He is a member of Post No. 51, G. A. R., of Dayville.

ASHFORD.

John Baker came from Dudley, Mass., to Ashford about 1825. He had four children, one of whom, Enoch, married Mary Webster, and had seven children, six of whom are now living. Davis A., the second son, born in Ashford in 1835, was educated at the schools of his native town and the state Normal school. He taught school in early life, but for the last ten years has been engaged in mercantile business. He represented Ashford in the legislature in 1867, 1877, and 1887, has been town clerk and judge of probate several years. He married Eliza Walbridge, and has two sons.

Reuben Barlow, a son of Reuben Barlow, was born in Woodstock, and came to Ashford in 1845. He married Eunice Snow. They have three sons and two daughters. Henry C. and Anson G. are doing business as Barlow Brothers, lumber dealers, at Griggs' Mill.

Charles Chism, born in Ashford, is a son of David Chism. He was a soldier in the 16th Connecticut volunteers. He married Annie L., daughter of Chauncey Whiton, who married Lucinda Moore. He was clerk and treasurer of the church society forty years, and was a descendant of Joseph Whiton, one of the early settlers of Ashford. He had four children, of whom one, Samuel, was a missionary to Africa and to the freedmen.

John A. Chism, born in Ashford, is a son of David and Hannah (Snell) Chism. He enlisted in the 25th Connecticut volunteers. He is now a farmer. He married Martha N. More, daughter of John More, a descendant of Thomas Lawson, one of the first settlers of Union.

John S. Dean was a native of Ashford and a son of Leonard Dean. He married Hannah M., daughter of Stephen Knowlton. He was a farmer and also engaged in glass manufacture. He

many official positions, represented Ashford in the legislature, the 14th senatorial district in the senate in 1877, and was county commissioner two years. He died in 1879. His son, Charles L. Dean, was associated with him in glass manufacture until 1873. Since 1874 he has been a member of the firm of Dean, Foster & Co., of Boston and Chicago, manufacturers of glassware. Charles Dean represented Ashford in the legislature of 1881, was county commissioner from 1869 to 1875, and was a member of Governor Andrew's staff. He is president of the First National Bank of Stafford.

Willard S. Fuller was born in Woodstock, and came to Ashford in 1842. He is a son of John and Hannah Fuller, and grandson of Elisha Fuller, who was a soldier in the revolutionary war. He is married to Almira Chaffee.

John T. Greene was born in Exeter, R. I., and came to Ashford in 1865. In early life he taught school. He represented Ashford in the legislature of 1871 and is one of the selectmen of the town. He married Lucy E. Davis and has three children: Frank W., Nellie A. and Annie B.

The Knowlton family were among the first settlers of Ashford. Robert Knowlton was a manufacturer of salt. One of his descendants, Daniel, married Hannah Knowlton, daughter of one Daniel Knowlton, a soldier of the revolutionary war, and brother of Colonel Knowlton of revolutionary fame. Daniel and Hannah Knowlton had three sons and three daughters. One son, Miner, was a graduate of West Point, a captain in the regular army, and served in the Mexican war. Another, Danford, was a merchant in New York. Edwin, the third son, resided in Ashford, married Mary, daughter of Otis Woodward, and had four children, one of whom, Robert D. W. Knowlton, represented Ashford in the legislature of 1889.

Stephen Fitts, a native of Massachusetts, came to Ashford, married Polly Knowlton, daughter of Colonel Thomas Knowlton, and had three children, Christian, Stephen and Maria. Christian married William Loomis, who was a farmer in Ashford, and had two children, Chester and Mary A. Chester was a farmer in Ashford and died in 1874.

Charles Mathewson came to Ashford from Woodstock in 1850 and bought a saw and grist mill at Warrenville, which he operated until 1865, when he was succeeded by the firm of Lombard & Mathewson, manufacturers of fertilizers and wholesale dealers

in agricultural implements. Charles Mathewson married Celia Hammond, and had five children, one of whom, John, married Ellen Carpenter and resides in Ashford.

Ira G. Murphy, son of Archibald and Sabra (Gallup) Murphy, came to Windham county, in 1832, and settled permanently in Ashford in 1840. He engaged in trade which he continued till his death in 1856. His son John A. succeeded to his father's business which he still continues. Mr. Murphy was instrumental in establishing a post office in Warrenville in 1872 and was the first postmaster. He represented Ashford in the legislature in 1863, and has been appointed deputy sheriff five times. He married Mary Spaulding, of Pomfret, and they have one son and four daughters.

Michael Richmond, son of Abner Richmond, a soldier in the revolutionary war, was born in Woodstock in November, 1786, and came to Ashford about 1800. In early life he learned saddle making and afterward engaged in the manufacture of cloth, also axes. He was also engaged in staging and turnpike building, and in the mercantile business, until he retired at 60 years of age. He died in 1881. He married Polly Barnes and had seven children, of whom only Mrs. Juliette Child and Mr. Elizur Richmond remain in Ashford.

Ebenezer Knowlton, a son of Stephen, married Eliza A. Lyon. He was postmaster and a merchant at West Ashford for twenty-five years and died in 1866. He had six children, of whom one, Adaline, married Dwight Shurtliff. They have three children.

John C. Smith, a son of Asa and grandson of George Smith, who were farmers in Ashford, commenced business in Westford as a wagon maker and blacksmith about 1833. This business he has continued with his son until the present time. He married Polly Thresher and has two children—Susan and Andrew S., who married Mary Whitaker. They have one son, George D. Smith.

Joseph Smith came from Smithfield, R. I., to Willington, Conn., about 1785. He had seven children, of whom one son, John, a soldier of the revolutionary war, married Mary Covell and had four children. One son, Charles, married Hannah Thresher. He died in 1844, and his widow still lives, in the one hundredth year of her age. They had nine children, of whom Samuel, born in Willington, came to Ashford in 1836. He married, first, Almira Morse; second, Mary Thresher. He has two

children—Charles A. and Hattie, who married Clarence Walcott.

Lieutenant Daniel Knowlton married, first, Elizabeth Farnham; second, Rebecca Fenton. He had ten children, of whom Marvin married Celestia Leonard and had two children—Marvin and Maria B., who married Henry Upton. Marvin Knowlton was a man frequently consulted in business affairs and one who settled many estates.

Leander Wright was in the mercantile business in New York in early life until 1847, when he came to Ashford to the family homestead, where five generations of the family have resided. He married Sarah Fisk, daughter of William A. Fisk. They have nine children. He died in 1887.

EASTFORD.

S. D. Bosworth, born in Eastford, is a son of Allen and Sally (Hall) Bosworth, and grandson of Ebenezer Bosworth, a soldier in the revolutionary war, who married Elizabeth Fletcher. Ebenezer was a son of Benjamin who came from Rehoboth, Mass., and settled about one mile west of the church in Eastford. Mr. Bosworth represented the town in the legislature in 1865, and has held various town offices. He married Elizabeth Badger, and has three children. His only son, Henry A., married Margaret Buell, and is a farmer in Eastford. Clarissa, only daughter of Allen Bosworth, married Joseph Dorset, and has one son, Benjamin, in New York.

Jairus Chapman, born in Ashford, was a son of Roswell, and grandson of Thomas, a soldier of the revolutionary war. He was selectman and justice many years, and represented Ashford in the legislature. Jairus Chapman married Emily Morse, and their children were: Zeviah R., Elvira E. and Mary J., who is a teacher of long experience.

Darwin Clark is a son of Palmer Clark, who came from Charlton, Mass., to Woodstock and afterward to Eastford, where he died in 1879. His son Darwin married Mary, daughter of William Bradway. They have five children. Mr. Clark is a farmer and stock dealer.

John Holman, son of Thomas, was born in Union in 1778, married Mary, daughter of Allen Bosworth, in 1808, and moved to Eastford in 1816. Four of their children are now living. John, Newton and Emily live in Eastford. Emily married

Nelson Clark, son of Palmer Clark, and one of the most successful farmers in Eastford.

Joseph B. Latham, son of Laban Latham, came from Johnston, R. I., to Eastford, Conn., in 1823. He was a millwright. He was justice of the peace many years, and represented Eastford in the legislature several times. He married a Bullard, and had six children who grew to manhood: Joseph B., Lorenzo B., William H., Eugene E., James E. and Monroe F., who married Sarah Johns, and has one son, Oliver H. Monroe F. is one of the selectmen of Eastford, and represented the town in the legislature in 1884. James E. Latham was born in Eastford in 1841, married Elizabeth Adams, of Eastford, and has two children.

George W. Olds, a native of Maine, came to North Ashford, and engaged in the business of making staves in company with Silas Simmons. In 1872 he opened a store at North Ashford, which he has continued until the present time. He has been postmaster since 1874.

Silas Preston, born in 1798 in Ashford, is a son of John and Persis (Weeks) Preston and grandson of John, a soldier of the revolutionary war. He was educated at the common schools, and in early life was a farmer. He represented Ashford in the legislature in 1842, was selectman several years, also director in the Stafford Bank. Later in life he was president of the Eastford Savings Bank until eighty-four years of age. He married Betsey Wright, with whom he lived sixty-three years. They had eight children. Mr. Preston now lives with his daughter, Mrs. Spaulding, and is ninety-one years of age.

Freeman Putnam, son of Asa Putnam, was born at Charlton, Mass., came to Union when quite young, and to Eastford in 1854. In early life he was a shoemaker, and later a farmer. He married Huldah, daughter of Danford Morse, supposed to be a descendant of Anthony Morse, who settled in Massachusetts in 1635.

Charles A. Rice was born in Springfield and came to Eastford in 1857. He has been twice married; his first wife was Mary Connell, and his second wife Hannah Carpenter, daughter of Oliver and Mary (Allen) Carpenter. Mary Allen was a daughter of Ephraim Allen and granddaughter of Timothy Allen, who was born in Mansfield in 1748. Mr. Rice is one of the justices of the town.

John Sherman, born in Eastford in 1818, was one of the nine children of Zephaniah Sherman and grandson of David Sherman, who came to Eastford from Fall River. Mr. Sherman was educated at the schools of Eastford, was in mercantile business in early life in Eastford, also manufacturing, later in the mercantile business at Brunswick, Me., and at present a farmer. He has served as town clerk several years, also selectman. He married Laura L. Edgerton, of Massachusetts. The only surviving brother of Mr. Sherman, Isaac Sherman, is a clergyman at Thompson.

Augustus Spaulding, a descendant in the seventh generation from Edward Spaulding, who came to America about 1630, is one of the most successful farmers of Eastford. He married Abigail C. Richards, of Dedham, Mass., daughter of Ebenezer Richards. Their children are: Albert H., George R. and Carrie N.

Charles O. Warren, son of Isaac and Lydia (Sumner) Warren, married Mary L. Sumner, daughter of Increase Sumner, and a descendant of Benjamin Sumner, the first of the name in Eastford, who was born at Roxbury in 1724. Mr. Charles Warren is the present to[illegible]erk. He has been in the mercantile business several ye[illegible]

Benjam[illegible] Warren, a son of Isaac, was born in Killingly, and [illegible] of John Fisher, who was on General [illegible] Benjamin was a [illegible] had [illegible]n, of whom Edmo[illegible] ried [illegible] lwards of Vermont, daughter of Sa[illegible] Mr. Warren is a farmer and marketman. [illegible]tice and selectman.

Robert Wheaton, born at Swansea, Wales, in 1605, settl[illegible] Rehoboth, Mass., between 1630 and 1636, and married [illegible] Bowen. Deacon James Wheaton, a descendant in the fifth [illegible]eration from Robert, came from Swansea, Mass., to Pom[illegible] [illegible]nn., in 1778, and to Thompson in 1800, where he kept a h[illegible] [illegible] is son, Levi, succeeded him in the hotel. Simeon A. Whea[illegible] [illegible]on of Levi, was born at Thompson in 1829, came to Eastf[illegible] and engaged in mercantile business, which he has continued [illegible] forty years. He represented Eastford in the legislature of 18[illegible] was county commissioner from 1876 to 1879, and has been [illegible] of the most successful business men of Eastford.